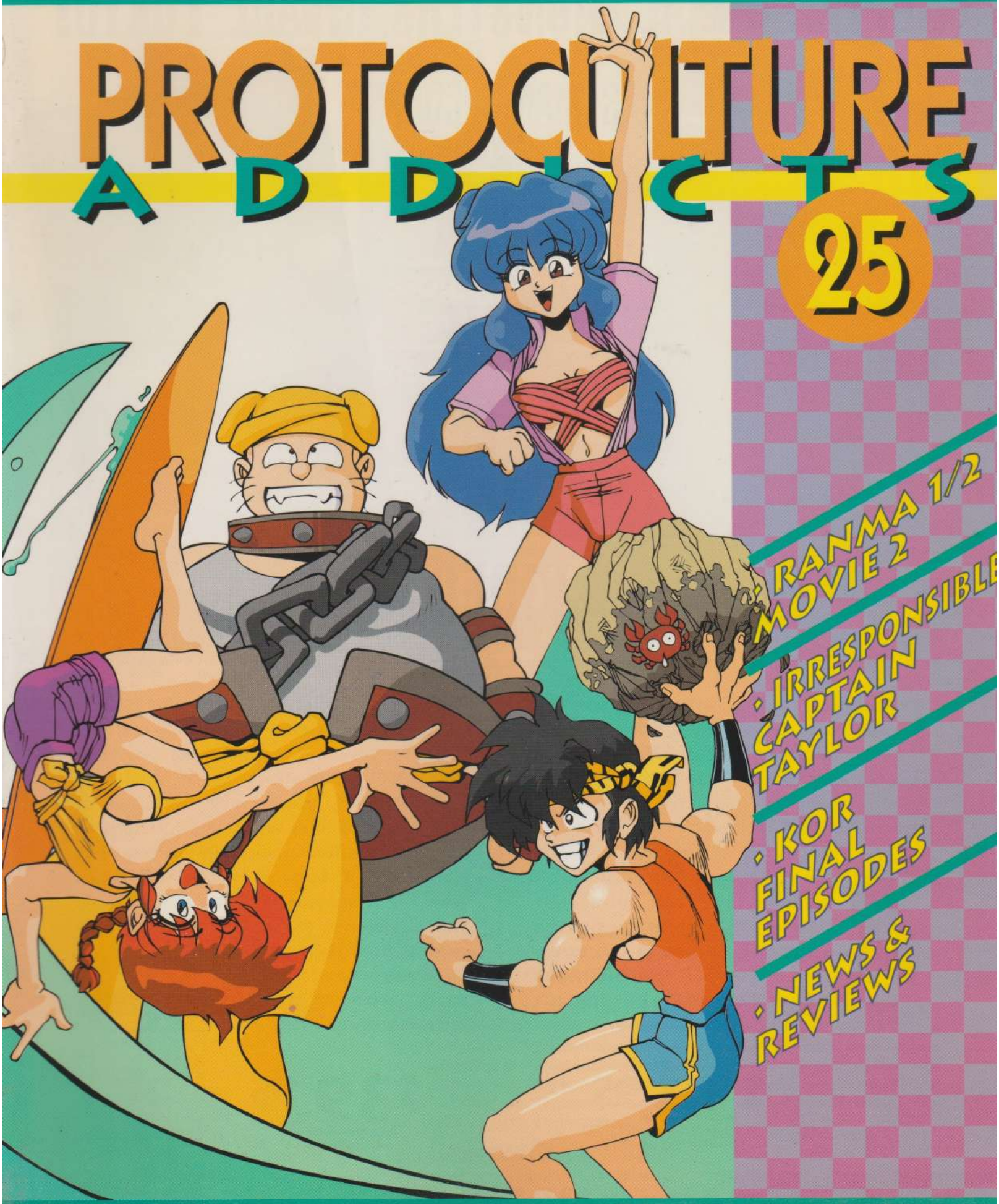
$3.95 US / CAN

PROTOCULTURE ADDICTS

25



- RANMA 1/2 MOVIE 2
- IRRESPONSIBLE CAPTAIN TAYLOR
- KOR FINAL EPISODES
- NEWS & REVIEWS

THE ANIME & MANGA MAGAZINE

SUPERNATURAL MONSTERS INVADE TOKYO!

Order cut-off: 10/13/93 Street date: 11/3/93

Actual Videocassette Packaging

U.S. MANGA CORPS™ & ANIME 18™

HAVE IT ON VIDEO

Order cut-off: 10/13/93 Street date: 11/3/93

Actual Videocassette Packaging

It began as an ordinary day for the students of Emperor High School, the worst high school in Tokyo City. But then the half-cockroach, half-human Ultimate Teacher walked into their lives and declared war! His wrath falls upon the school's cutest gang leader. The two become instant arch enemies, and their outrageous battle for supremacy proves nothing is sacred in the quest for discipline! **The Ultimate Teacher**...pray he doesn't come to your school!!

U.S.MANGA™ CORPS

The sinister scientist DR. MUNHIHAUSEN desperately searches for a way to conquer the powerful OVERFIEND. His efforts seem fruitless—until TAKEAKI, infused with the blood of the Overfiend after an accident, begins to develop incredible powers. In this sequel to **Urotsukidoji: Legend of the Overfiend** (aka *The Wandering Kid*), the unbelievable sexual violence of the Overfiend and his cohorts from Hell continues to wreak havoc on the earth—who can stop this relentless onslaught?

ANIME™ 18

Catalog #: USM-1030
Color. Stereo. 60 minutes.
Animated action adventure.
Original Japanese dialogue with English subtitles.
Unrated. Suitable for most audiences.
Parental discretion advised.

$34.95
suggested retail price
(prices may vary in Canada)

$39.95
suggested retail price
(prices may vary in Canada)

Catalog #: A18-1073
Color. Stereo. 88 minutes.
Animated action adventure.
English language dialogue (dubbed version).
Contains strong violence and sexual themes.
Absolutely not for minors under 18.

©1993 Central Park Media Corp.
Company spokes mecha M.D. Geist appears courtesy of Nippon Columbia.

1-800-MANGA-77
250 West 57th Street, Suite 317, New York, NY 10107
Phone: 212-977-7456 Fax: 212-977-8709

CONTENTS

EDITORIAL
IRRESPONSIBLE CAPTAIN 4

WHAT'S GOING ON?
FLASH 5
ANIME 6
MANGA 8
IANUS 9

SPOTLIGHT ON RANMA 1/2
Second Movie Synopsis 11

REVIEWS
VIDEO GAMES: Cobra Mission Exposed 19
GAMES: JOVIAN CHRONICLES 22
VIDEO: The Old and The New 34

ANIME WORLD
Anime Tour '93 20
Otaku no Contest Results 33

SPOTLIGHT ON KIMAGURE ORANGE ROAD (4)
WHIMSICAL EPISODE GUIDE (4) 23

ANIME STORIES
IRRESPONSIBLE CAPTAIN TAYLOR 38

VOICE OF THE FREEDOM FIGHTER 40

STAFF

Publisher
Claude J. Pelletier

Editor-in-chief
Marc-Alexandre Vézina

Art Director
Pierre Ouellette

Layout
Dominique Durocher

Production Staff
Ghislain Barbe, Robert Dubois
Dominique Durocher, Martin Ouellette
Claude J. Pelletier, Marc-Alex Vézina

Contributors
John Beam, Robert DeJesus,
Alain Dubreuil, Patrick Lapointe,
John Moscato, Matt Pyson

Proofreading
Jimmy Mah, Jean Carrières

Translators
Miyako Graham, Daichi Saeki

Administration
Robert Dubois (Advertising)
Claude J. Pelletier (Distribution)

Linotronic/Color Separation
Typo Express, Inc

Printing
Payette & Simms, Inc

SUBSCRIPTION

6 issues: $25 US, $26.75 Can (GST included), or $40 US overseas. Check or money-order must be drawn to IANUS Publications.
For a sample copy send $6 US, $6.42 Can (GST included), or $8 US overseas
Postage & Handling included.

IANUS PUBLICATIONS
5000, Iberville St., #332,
Montréal, Qc., Canada, H2H 2M2

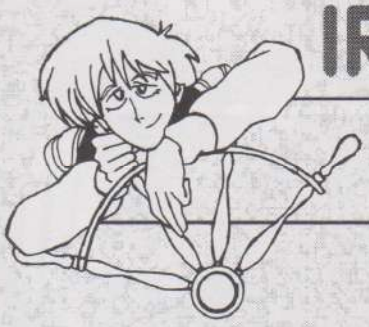
SPECIAL THANKS

Jeffrey Tom ..... (NEW TYPE Hobbies and Toys)
Fred Patten ..... (Streamline Pictures)
John O'Donnell ..... (U.S. Manga Corps)
Kevin Seymour ..... (US Renditions)
Seiji Horibuchi ..... (Viz Comics)
Kenny Wu ..... (Megatech)
Janice Hindle ..... (AnimEigo)
Nobuo Masuda ..... (Sunrise)
Kevin Marino ..... (JAM)

PROTOCULTURE ADDICTS #25. December 1993. The Anime & Manga magazine. Published bi-monthly by IANUS PUBLICATIONS INC., 5000 Iberville Street, Studio #332, Montreal, Quebec, Canada H2H 2M2. Tel.: (514) 523-1350. Fax: (514) 523-8680.

PROTOCULTURE ADDICTS is ©1993 by IANUS PUBLICATIONS. The copyrights and trademarks mentioned herein are the property of their respective owners. PROTOCULTURE ADDICTS acknowledges the creators and copyrights holders of the materials mentioned or pictured herein, and does not seek to infringe on their rights. All rights to articles/artwork revert to their respective writers/artists upon publication. Contributors are responsible for their views which are not necessarily those of PROTOCULTURE ADDICTS. No part of this magazine can be reproduced without permission from the publisher, except for review purposes.

Legal deposit at the National Library of Quebec
Legal deposit at the National Library of Canada **ISSN 0835-9563** **Printed in Canada**



IRRESPONSIBLE CAPTAIN

When I first watched an episode of IRRESPONSIBLE CAPTAIN TAYLOR, I almost saw myself in this optimistic loony. I saw myself irresponsibly steering my ship with my fannish ideals, accomplishing success against all odds without even thinking whether it was possible or not. I am just very lucky or have a really good team.

What made me think about all this is the fact that I suddenly realized that this fall was the sixth anniversary of PA. Six years already. How many deep and treacherous seas have we sailed since the beginning of the humble ROBOTECH fanzine? I can't remember. Too many anyway. So many that the excitement seems to have vanished. It has become a business. Our path is not guided anymore by the simple pleasure of our quest but is dictated by our responsibilities towards our bank, our employees, our readers. That is why we always try to improve the quality of the magazine, to adapt it to your needs and expectations. That is also why we must raise its cover price to $4.95 and the subscription rate to $25. Ok, we still can't offer you thick cover, full color, or manga stories, but we have a good look, a good spirit, and we have put all our heart to bring *to you* the information. No matter what, we will continue to give you the best guide to the anime and manga world and we will be on time!

What robs me the most of the excitement, of my pleasure of producing PA is all the disappointments. The endless obstacles and this apparent stagnation: of our work, of the industry. I have been stricken by the attitude of the anime industry: ungrateful, egoistical, and uncooperative. By the aristocratic behavior of some who have knowledge of the Japanese language. By people who jealously hold their rights, their information, because it provides a dizzy feeling of power. By those who despise. By the feud among factions. By pirates. By copiers. By imbued artists. All those were so evident at the last conventions. There are greater irresponsible captains. Sometimes, we get so tired of the anime industry, particularly when the gaming department of Ianus (Dream Pod 9) is doing so well. But why should I care about the anime industry as long as YOU, the fans, are there. You are our only reason for being!

We thought that the anime wind was dying. It seems it is coming back. It gently blows, spreading our sails. It will get stronger (check the news). And there we are, ready again to bodly navigate towards unknown worlds. All aboard! Visit the last segment of the Kimagure Orange Road. And why not make a stop at this strange island where the Ranma party has shipwrecked. A small anime tour in forty pages. It is almost exciting. Leave your troubled mind and join once again your irresponsible captain...

Claude J. Pelletier

Claude J. Pelletier

CREDITS - COPYRIGHTS

AD POLICE FILES (© 1990 by Artmic, Inc & Youmex, Inc. Licenced to AnimEigo by Artmic, Bandai Visual, and Youmex. Translation and subtitles © 1993 by AnimEigo, Inc). AH! MY GODDESS (© Pony Canyon/ Kodansha/TBS/KSS Films). ARCADIA OF MY YOUTH (© 1982 by Toei Company, Ltd and the Tokyu Agency. Licenced by Toei. Translation & subtitles © 1993 AnimEigo). AREA 88 (© 1985 Project 88. English version & packaging © 1992 Central Park Media Corporation). ASTROBOY (© 1963 NBC Films, renewed 1991 Suzuki Associates International. Synopses & packaging © 1993 The Right Stuff International, Inc.). COBRA MISSION (© 1992 Liberty International Components, Inc. All rights reserved). DANGARD ACE (© 1992 Peter Pan Industries/Parade Video). EXPLORER WOMAN RAY (© Takeshi Okazaki/ AIC/ Animeito Film/ Toshiba Video Softwares, Inc. English version & packaging © 1993 Central Park Media Corporation). GAIKING (© 1992 Peter Pan Industries/ Parade Video). GIANT ROBO (© 1992 Amuse Video/ Bandai-Emotion. The English version is released by LA Hero/US Renditions). GRANDIZER (© 1992 Peter Pan Industries/Parade Video). GREEN LEGEND RAN (© Pioneer LDC, Inc). GUYVER (© 1989, 1992 Takaya Productions/ K.S.S./ Bandai/ MOVIC/ Tokuma Shoten/ L.A. Hero/ U.S. Renditions. All Rights Reserved). THE HEROIC LEGEND OF ARISLAN (© 1992 Yoshiki Tanaka/ Kadokawa Shoten/ MOVIC/ Sony Music Entertainment (Japan) Inc. English subtitled version & packaging © 1993 Central Park Media Corporation). IRRESPONSIBLE CAPTAIN TAILOR (© 1993 Yoshioka Hitoshi/ Tailor Project/Kadokawa Shoten). KIMAGURE ORANGE ROAD (© 1988/90 Toho-Studio Pierrot. Subtitled and released by AnimEigo. Licensed by Toho International Co., Ltd.). JOVIAN CHRONICLES (© 1993 Ianus Publications, Inc.). MOLDIVER (© 1993 AIC/ Pioneer LDC, Inc.). THE PROFESSIONAL (© 1983 Saito Productions. All Rights Reserved. package design © 1993 Streamline Pictures). RANMA 1/2 (© 1993 Rumiko Takahashi/Shogakukan/Kitty/Fuji TV). RG VEDA (© 1992 CLAMP/ Shinshokan/ Sony Music Entertainment (Japan) Inc/ MOVIC. English subtitled version & packaging © 1993 Central Park Media Corporation). ROBOTECH (© 1985 Harmony Gold USA, Inc./ Tatsunoko Production Co., Ltd. All Rights Reserved). SHONAN BAKUSOZUKU (© 1986 by Toei Co., Ltd. Translations and subtitles © 1993 AnimEigo, Inc.). SPACEKETEERS (© 1992 Peter Pan Industries/Parade Video). STARVENGER (© 1992 Peter Pan Industries/ Parade Video). ULTIMATE TEACHER (© 1988, 1993 Movic/Sony Music Entertainment (Japan) Inc. Packaging © 1993 Central Park Media Corporation). URUSEI YATSURA (© Kitty Films. Licensed to AnimEigo by Compass. Translation & subtitles © 1993 by AnimEigo, Inc.).

Cover

Robert DeJesus
Color: Dominique Durocher

ILLUSTRATIONS

Ghislain Barbe	4, 40
John Bean	40
Dominique Durocher	41
John Moscato	34

Other illustrations from:

ANIME V 12-91: 10. ANIMEDIA 12-87: 132. NEWTYPE 10-89: 155; 6-92: 2; 8-92: 18, 38; 11-92: 8; 4-93: 101, 112; 5-93: 23; 6-93: 3. RANMA 1/2 stickers, and laminated pictures.

All other illustrations came from promotional artwork, cover art, or directly from the animation.

WHAT'S GOING ON?

MANGA

Manga is really a big thing in Japan. 15 of the 19 publications with a circulation over a million are manga magazines. #1 is WEEKLY SHONEN JUMP with 6.1 million copies; #2 is WEEKLY SHONEN MAGAZINE with 3.5 million copies. The third position is held by the monthly shojo magazine RIBBON and WEEKLY YOUNG MAGAZINE with a circulation of 2.4 million for both. Nothing to compare with the circulation of comics here!

Anyone noticed that Viz have cut three chapters and made some changes (cultural refences) in MAISON IKKOKU?

ANIMEIGO

The price of the BUBBLEGUM CRISIS LDs have been lowered from $64.95 to $39.95!

AnimEigo is now selling soundtrack CDs. The titles available are: RIDING BEAN (10 songs, 45 min., $30), BGC vol. 1 (13 songs, 55 min., $35), BGC Vol. 2 (16 songs, 61 min., $35), and BGC #8 SCOOP CHASE SOUNDTRACK (10 songs, 40 min., $25).

On February 23rd, AD POLICE and BUBBLEGUM CRISIS tapes will be re-released with new "SpineScene"™ packaging. The tapes will present a pictorial offering of the video's visual contents when placed in sequence on a video library shelf.

STREAMLINE

Jerry Beck has left Streamline Pictures to work on a new book: THE 50 GREATEST ANIMATED FILMS. Wendy Horowitz has replaced him as booking agent.

Streamline might consider producing their own animations. They are looking for feedback from the animation fans to know what kind of show or feature they would like to see.

NEW STUFF

AnimeEigo have signed with Kodansha for the licensing rights of the OVA series AH! MY GODDESS (Ao Megamisama).

The new Dirty Pair series, DIRTY PAIR FLASH, will be released monthly beginning January 21st. It will be six episodes of 30 minutes.

The rumor is out there again: ELFQUEST will be animated for the end of 1994 both in movie and series format.

Next summer, Disney Studio will release a 32nd full length animated feature: THE LION KING. It is a story about an heroic young lion cub named Cimba, destined to become king of the African jungle. It will contain seven original songs by pop superstar Elton John and ALADDIN's Academy Awarded lyricist Tim Rice. Voice actors will be James Earl Jones (Cimba), Robert Guillaume (Rafiki the monkey), Whoopie Goldberg, Matthew Broderick, and Lea Salonga. It will be the first Disney film to have a character die onscreen. The designs and animation are dazzling but the trailer announcing "extraordinary original story" could make you uneasy. A story about a lion cub called Cimba and some familiar designs trigger a strange feeling of *déjà vu*. Tezuka, who created JUNGLE TAITEI in 1965, will probably turn in his grave!

A new RANMA OVA was released on October 21. The LD (CAV, PCLE-00002) retails at ¥4,500.

ROBOTECH

The first ROBOTECH OMNIBUS book (compiling the first three novels) and the first **new** ROBOTECH novel have been re-scheduled for a May '94 release. The sooner the better. The new novel will be titled ZENTRAEDI REBELLION and will cover the story of the Malcontent Uprisings. Check the preview in PROTOCULTURE ADDICTS #27.

Streamline cancelled the regular ROBOTECH tapes after the second volume of each series, but will continue to release the Perfect Collection subtitled. The rights for the English dubbed version were sold back to Family Home Entertainment, who first released the Macross Saga. Now, they are releasing the complete series, uncut this time, with a new packaging by Don Yee, two episodes per tapes, for $14.95. It has also been released in LD (Pioneer label), 9 discs, 4 episodes per disc, retailing at $29.95 US ($49.95 CAN).

WORTH A LOOK

Nippan has released its new catalog. At last! The layout is not very interesting and there is no really special products (at least for us). The prices are expensive, but there is still a 20% discount for members which make the prices really good. Lots of products. Worth a look.

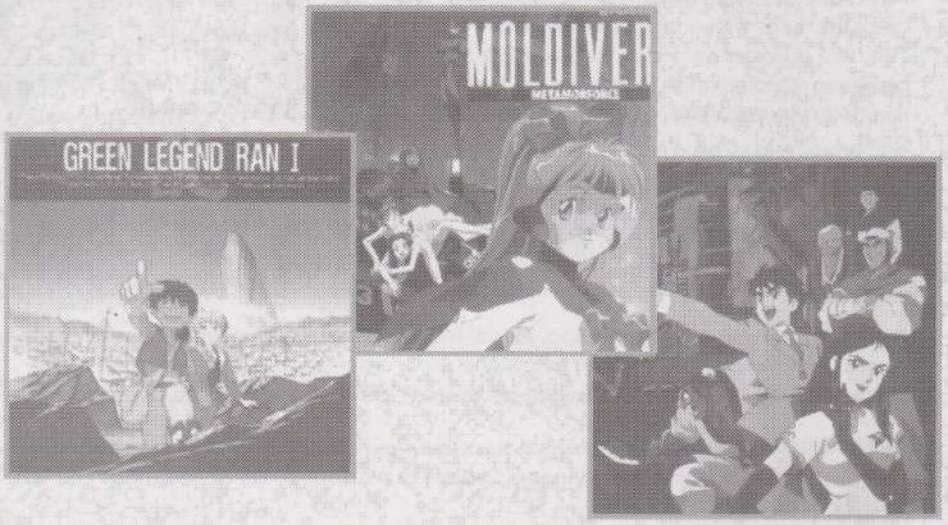
GIANT ROBO dubbed by US Renditions is out at last! We must say here that it is the best anime dub ever. It is exactly like the Japanese version, but in English. Bravo and thank you US Renditions.

PIONEER

Last summer, Pioneer announced their decision to release Japanese animation on the North American market. That was marvelous news, first, because Pioneer is a Japanese company and the releases will simply be chosen among their best titles in Japan, and second, because of the format they will use. The animation will not only be released on Laser Disc, but each disc will also offer a choice of language to the viewer. All discs will contain the original Japanese dialog and soundtrack on the digital audio track, an English dubbed version on the analog track, and an English subtitled version using the Closed-Caption features. Viewers will be able to select the version they want and switch from one to another. This ultimate video format will give more quality, more satisfaction and will totally revolutionize the world of anime in North America. Other video companies will have to adapt or suffer the consequences.

Recently, Pioneer LDCA released more information. The LDs will not only offer a bilingual soundtrack and closed-captioned subtitles, but they will be in CAV! They will retail for $34.95 US. Pioneer promised an accurate translation, the best timing for the subtitles and confirmed that the programs will be exactly as they were released in Japan. Even the jacket design will be the same with all the inserts. A translation of the inserts and of the back cover information will be provided. All titles will also be released in VHS by Live Entertainment (FHE), but it is not known yet if the videos will be dubbed or subtitled. The LDs will be available through Pioneer regular distribution channels (Tower Video, Camelot Music, HMV, and hundreds of local stores — call 1-800-421-1404 for the store nearest you). They will also be available from the LaserDisc Fan Club (call 1-800-322-2285). The LD Fan Club also carries the imported CDs as well as the LDs, and they discount!

Pioneer plans to release over 40 anime titles in 1994, starting with TENCHI MUYO! (NO NEED FOR TENCHI!) on 12/8/93, GREEN LEGEND RAN (3/94), MOLDIVER (4/94), KISHIN HEIDAN (9/94), and HAKKENDEN (10/94). They will also release in the same format 25 titles licensed from L.A. Hero, starting with GIANT ROBO and MAGUMA.



VIZ VIDEO

Viz announced at Anime Expo the creation of a new video line. This is the logical step after their success in publishing manga and probably the best move in cross-marketing. Releasing the same titles in animation and in comics is a very clever way to increase the support already provided by their magazine, ANIMERICA. The first title announced is RANMA 1/2. There could not be a better choice since it is probably the most awaited anime titled among North American fans. The first dubbed fifty (50) minute video cassette contains the first two episodes and features a digitally recorded dubbed hifi stereo soundtrack. Viz also plans to release a subtitled version as well as a laser disc version in the near future. The video is priced at $29.95 US.

The second title is MERMAID'S SCAR, the sequel to RUMIC WORLD's MERMAID FOREST by Rumiko Takahashi. The single volume fifty (50) minute dubbed OAV features a digitally mastered stereo soundtrack and is priced at $34.95 US. Both titles were shipped on November 2nd.

DISNEY LOOKING FOR ARTISTS

Disney Studio are looking for experienced professionals for the production of their next animated features (Pocahontas, The Hunchback of Notre Dame, and Fantasia Continued). People are needed in character animation, background, computer drawing, screenplay, modeling. If you think you are qualified and are ready to move to California, Florida or Europe, call (818) 544-2130 for portfolio specification or send your curriculum vitae to: Walt Disney Feature Animation, 1326 Flower Street, Glendale, CA 91221. FAX: (818) 544-2607.

TOP 20 ANIME TITLES

The Top 20 best selling Japanese animation titles in North America from January 1st through August 15, 1993 are: 1) Urotsukidoji: Legend of the Overfiend, 2) Project a-Ko, 3) Dominion, 4) MD Geist, 5) Area 88, 6) Laughing Target, 7) Venus Wars, 8) Harmagedon, 9) Mermaid Forest, 10) Firetripper, 11) Grave of the Fireflies, 12) Odin, 13) Explorer Women Ray, 14) They Were 11, 15) Gall Force: Eternal Story, 16) Maris The Chojo, 17) Urusei Yatsura: Beautiful Dreamer, 18) Roots Search, 19) Crystal Triangle, and 20) Macross II.

VIDEO RELEASES

DEVILMAN 1-2	DIE	S	55	$34.95 ea	AVAIL.
KABUTO	DIE	S	45	$34.95	AVAIL.
AMBASSADOR MAGMA 2	DIE	D	60	$24.95	AVAIL.
UTRAMAN TTF #5-8	UAV	E	23	$14.95 ea	AVAIL.
UROTSUKIDOJI 2	A18	D	88	$39.95	AVAIL.
ULTIMATE TEACHER	USM	S	60	$39.95	AVAIL.
RANMA 1/2 TV #1	VV	S	52	$29.95	AVAIL.
MERMAID'S SCAR	VV	S	52	$34.95	AVAIL.
ULTIMATE TEACHER (LD)	USM	S	60	$34.99	AVAIL.
UROTSUKIDOJI 2 (LD)	A18	D	88	$49.95	AVAIL.
UY MOVIE 4	AE	S	94	$39.95	AVAIL.
ORGUSS 5-6	USR	D	55	$24.95 ea	AVAIL.
ASTROBOY 30th ANNIV.	RS	D	50	$14.95 ea	AVAIL.
ROBOTECH M.S. (LD) 1-9	FHE	D	100	$29.95	AVAIL.
BATTLE ANGEL	ADV	S	70	N/A	AVAIL.
GUY I, II	ADV	S	N/A	$29.95 ea	AVAIL.
GUY DOUBLE TARGET SET	ADV	S	N/A	$39.95	AVAIL.
UROTSUKIDOJI P.C.	A18	D	N/A	N/A	12/1
TOBOR: 8TH MAN 4	RS	D	120	$29.95	12/1
RANMA 1/2 OVA #1	VV	D	52	$34.95	12/15
UY TV 11	AE	S	100	$39.95	12/29
AD POLICE: FILE 3	AE	S	40	$34.95	12/29
GUYVER 4	USR	D	60	$24.95	JAN
ROBOTECH 11-20	FHE	D	45	$14.95 ea	JAN
ARSLAN	USMC	S	59	$29.95	1/5
RG VEDA	USMC	S	45	$29.95	1/5
RANMA 1/2 TV 2	VV	D	50	$29.95	1/5
ULTRAMAN: TTF 9-10	UAV	E	23	$14.95 ea	1/10
MACROSS II 3	USR	D	55	$24.95	1/10
UY MOVIE 5	AE	S	90	$39.95	1/19
UY MOVIE 3 (LD)	AE	S	93	$54.95	1/19
BURN UP!	ADV	S	50	$29.95	1/26
ORGUSS 7-8	USR	D	55	$24.95 ea	1/31
DEMON CITY SHINJUKU	USMC	S	82	$29.95	2/2
U-JIN BRAND	USMC	S	45	$29.95	2/2
ARCADIA OF MY YOUTH	AE	S	130	$39.95	2/2
SHONAN BAKUSOZUKU	AE	S	52	$34.95	2/2
RANMA 1/2 TV 3	VV	D	50	$29.95	2/9
GUYVER 5	USR	D	60	$24.95	2/9
UY TV 12	AE	S	100	$39.95	2/23
AD POLICE (LD)	AE	S	120	TBA	2/23
UY MOVIE 6	AE	S	90	$39.95	3/30
UY MOVIE 4 (LD)	AE	S	90	$54.95	3/30
GAIARTH 3	AE	S	N/A	$34.95	3/30
UY TV 13	AE	S	100	$34.95	4/20
BUBBLEGUM CRASH (LD)	AE	S	N/A	TBA	4/20
UY TV 14	AE	S	100	$34.95	5/25
UY MOVIE 5 (LD)	AE	S	90	$54.95	5/25
UY TV 15	AE	S	100	$34.95	6/29
UY MOVIE 6 (LD)	AE	S	90	$54.95	7/27
AH! MY GODDESS	AE	S	N/A	TBA	TBA

MANGACTUALITY

DECEMBER			
ANIME UK	11	AUK	$5.75
ANIMERICA	10	VIZ	$4.95/$6.50
BATTLE ANGEL ALITA PART 3	3 (/13)	VIZ	$2.75/$3.75
BIO-BOOSTER ARMOR: GUYVER	3 (/12)	VIZ	$2.75/$3.75
CARAVAN KIDD PART 2	7	DH	$2.50/$3.15
DREAD: MEDIA OVERKILL	1	FE	$5.95/$7.95
GOKU	3 (/5)	AP	$2.95/$3.95
MAISON IKKOKU	7 (/7)	VIZ	$2.95/$4.00
MANGA NEWSWATCH	7	NCC	$2.95/$3.75
MANGAZINE	30	AP	$2.95/$3.95
MERMAID FOREST	1 (/4)	VIZ	$2.75/$3.75
MOBILE SUIT GUNDAM 0083	2 (/13)	VIZ	$4.95/$6.50
NINJA HIGH SCHOOL	43	EC	$2.50/$3.15
NINJA HIGH SCHOOL SWIMSUIT	1993	AP	$2.95/$3.95
PIXY JUNKET	6 (/6)	VIZ	$2.75/$3.75
PROTOCULTURE ADDICTS	25	IP	$4.95/$4.95
RANMA 1/2 PART 3	1 (/13)	VIZ	$2.75/$3.75
ROBOTECH: INVID WAR AFTERMATH	2	EC	$2.50/$3.15
ROBOTECH: RETURN TO MACROSS	10	EC	$2.50/$3.15
ROBOTECH II: THE SENTINELS P. 3	5	EC	$2.50/$3.15
SANCTUARY PART 2	8 (/9)	VIZ	$4.95/$6.50
SILENT MOBIUS PART 5	1 (/6)	VIZ	$2.75/$3.75
ULTRAMAN	1	NC	$2.25/$2.75
VENGER ROBO	2 (/7)	VIZ	$2.75/$3.75
VERSION	2.5	DH	$2.50/$3.15
ZILLION	6	EC	$2.50/$3.15
JANUARY			
ANIME, BEGINNER'S GUIDE		TITAN	$13
ANIMERICA VOL. 2	1	VIZ	$4.95.$6.50
BATTLE ANGEL ALITA PART 3	4 (/13)	VIZ	$2.75/$3.75
BIO-BOOSTER ARMOR: GUYVER	4 (/12)	VIZ	$2.75/$3.75
CARAVAN KIDD PART 2	8	DH	$2.50/$3.40
GOKU	4 (/5)	AP	$2.95/$3.95
MAISON IKKOKU PART 2	1 (/6)	VIZ	$2.95/$4.00
MANGAJIN	33		$4.95
MANGAZINE	31	AP	$2.95/$3.95
MERMAID FOREST	2 (/4)	VIZ	$2.75/$3.75
MOBILE SUIT GUNDAM 0083	2 (/13)	VIZ	$4.95/$6.50
NHS CD-ROM	1	AP	$29.95/$39.95
NHS TRADING CARD	(/66)	AP	$9.95/$12.95
NINJA HIGH SCHOOL	0	AP	$2.75/$3.75
PROTOCULTURE ADDICTS	26	IP	$4.95/$4.95
RANMA 1/2 PART 3	2 (/13)	VIZ	$2.75/$3.75
ROBOTECH: INVID WAR AFTERMATH	3	EC	$2.50/$3.30
ROBOTECH: RETURN TO MACROSS	11	EC	$2.50/$3.30
ROBOTECH II: THE SENTINELS P. 3	6	EC	$2.50/$3.30
SANCTUARY PART 2	9 (/9)	VIZ	$4.95/$6.50
SILBUSTER	1	AP	$2.95/$3.95
SILENT MOBIUS PART 5	2 (/6)	VIZ	$2.75/$3.75
SMALL BODIED NHS COLLECTION	1	AP	$6.95/$9.95
ULTRAMAN	2	NC	$2.25/$2.75
ULTRAMAN: BATTLE ULTRA BROTHERS	1 (/5)	VIZ	$4.95/$6.50
V-MAX	9	VMP	$4.50/$6.00
VENGER ROBO	3 (/7)	VIZ	$2.75/$3.75
VERSION	2.6	DH	$2.50/$3.40

NOTES

AP: Antarctic Press; DH: Dark Horse; EC: Eternity Comics; FE: Fantaco Entreprises; NC: Nemesis Comics. The first issue of Dread is about adult manga.

IPPONGI BANG

Antarctic Press is publishing a brand new manga series: GOKU by Ippongi Bang. It is the first of her works to be published in English. Ippongi Bang is one of the rising stars of manga in Japan. Her works include a wide range of material, including boys' and young adults' manga as well as illustrated novels. In an exclusive deal with Comic Market, Antarctic Press is now publishing her work on a monthly basis.

Ippongi Bang was born in 1965 in Yokohama, Japan. At the young age of 17, she had her first story published and has appeared in several publications since then. A million-plus seller, she is sometimes referred to as the "emperess" of Japanese comics. Rather than working as a contract artist, she is a freelancer, and has worked with some of the most important manga companies, such as Bandai, Tokuma Shoten, Rapport, and Shueisha. She is also a singer (two albums since '85), actress ("Kekko Kamen" 2 and 3), and model. She speaks English and is currently setting up her own office (Studio DoDo) in Kawasaki, since it is also the name of her favorite brand of motorbike.

GOKU's story revolves around the young Gokuro Tamiya, who has been living with his uncle since he lost both his parents in a mysterious plane crash. While on a date, Goku's girlfriend is attacked by Black Iczer, an evil organization of black-clad men. He attempts to follow, but is drawn to a secret laboratory instead by a collar he has worn around his neck since birth. Once there, he discovers the special power suit that will transform him into Change Commander Goku and he is off to rescue his girlfriend. Story and art by Ippongi Bang; Translation by Douglas Dlin and Kuni Kimura; Touch-up by Lea Hernandez. 32 pages, $2.95 US ($4.00 CAN). The "Change Commander Goku" storyline will end in December with issue #3. DARK HORROR, a collection of Bang's short stories, will be published in January. A new series, AMAZING STRIP, will begin in February.

MANGA IN USA

In our manga special (PA #23) we neglected to provide you the address of the three companies publishing manga in North America: ANTARCTIC PRESS, 7272 Wurzbach, #204, San Antonio, TX 78240, FAX: (210) 614-5029; DARK HORSE COMICS, 10956 SE Main Street, Milwaukie, OR 97222, PH: (800) 862-0052; VIZ COMICS, P.O. Box 77010, San Francisco, CA 94107 (or via InterNet at viz@netcom.co).

WONDERING IF...

If you've ever asked yourself "Can I submit articles to PROTOCULTURE ADDICTS and/or MECHA PRESS?", then you can start typing. We're always looking for articles for both magazines, but before you rush off and send us your material ask for our guidelines.

Artists' and writers' guidelines are available for both magazines and even for our role playing game division. Just send your requests in writing, with a self-addressed stamped envelope to IANUS PUBLICATIONS. Please specify which guidelines you want and include an International Reply Coupon for postage.

WE ARE MOVING!

Please, take note that starting with January 1st, Ianus Publications will now be located at: 5000, Iberville Street, #332, Montreal, Qc., Canada, H2H 2M2. Our new phone number is (514) 523-1350 and our new fax is: (514) 523-8680. Our new offices will be bigger (2,000 sq. ft.), and a lot nicer.

NEW SUBSCRIPTION RATES!

The subscription rate for MECHA PRESS stays the same ($36), but, after some calculations, we must readjust PROTOCULTURE ADDICTS' rate to $25. It is only a raise of $1, but it was necessary. The subscription is still very advantageous (even more so with the new cover price). It may not be the fastest way to have PA, but you save $5 and you will not have to search for it. Our calculations have also revealed that the overseas rate was inadequate: it has been raised to $40. Sorry for the inconveniance, but our shipping costs are higher than expected. Don't worry, the quality of the magazine will not suffer and will even continue to improve.

MECHA PRESS

If you have not seen it yet, go to your local gaming/comics store and have a look at the new MECHA PRESS (starting with #7). It is really gorgeous with its laminated cover and 8 color centerfold pages. We are REALLY proud of it. Unfortunately, we are not as much satisfied with its sales. It is doing good, but not enough to justify the great expenses on the color. Consequently, we have decided to go back to the B&W-only inside for now and wait at least another year before putting more color. Nevertheless, there will be a color insert once in a while.

Also, responding to the feedback you gave in our questionnaire, MECHA PRESS will become a little more gaming oriented. There is no use having two magazines (PA & MP) with similar contents, but doing two DIFFERENT magazines will only make them better. The change will slowly take place starting with issue #10.

In February, MECHA PRESS #11 will feature DOUGRAM, a Sunrise TV series of 75 episodes released in 1981. MECHA PRESS will continue to act as a kind of mechanical encyclopedia of Japanese animation and will cover all aspects of DOUGRAM: story, background, characters, and, of course, the nice mechanical designs by Kunio Okawara. The magazine will also continue to offer articles, news, reviews on all anime-related hobbies: models, RPG games, video games, etc.

ANY QUESTIONS?

We are very often asked "where are you taking those fabulous anime video you are talking about?". There are several ways to find an anime video:

1) You can buy them in an anime goods store. Our favorite place is NIKAKU ANIMART (615 N. 6th St., San Jose, CA 95112, USA. Ph: (408) 971-2822) but there is also LASER PERCEPTIONS (1739 Noriega, San Francisco, CA 94112, USA. Ph: (415) 753-2016) and MIKADO LASER JAPAN (1737 Post St., San Francisco, CA 94115). For books, the best places are BOOKS NIPPAN (605 W. 7th St., Los Angeles, CA) and KINOKUNIYA BOOK STORE (1581 Webster St., San Francisco, CA 94115, Ph: (415) 567-7625 or 10 West 49th St., New York, NY 10020, Ph: (212) 765-1461. Other locations in New Jersey, San Jose, L.A. and Torrance.). For strickly anime goods, try KIMONO-MY-HOUSE (1424 62nd St., Emeryville, CA 94608, USA. Ph: (510) 654-4627. FAX: (510) 654-4621) and, for models, there is NEW TYPE HOBBIES & TOYS (1531 B 10th Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94122, USA. Ph: (415) 731-3077).

2) If your city has a Japantown or a Chinatown, search its commercial district. You could find stores selling anime goods or renting anime videos.

3) Look if there is an anime fan club in your vicinity. Those clubs are generally linked to high schools or universities. They hold meetings where they show anime and talk about them. They sometimes have a video library where you can borrow tapes. Or at the very least you can meet new friends and exchange videos with them. In a future issue, we will publish again the list of the anime clubs. IF YOU ARE A CLUB ORGANIZER, PLEASE SEND US YOUR ADDRESS AND A SMALL DESCRIPTION OF YOUR ACTIVITIES SO WE CAN UPDATE OUR REPERTORY.

Also, several fans asked us about ARCTIC ANIMATION, a section of the Vancouver Japanese Animation Club, which is doing fan subtitling. For more details, write to Jim Chow, 2830 East 8th Ave., Vancouver, BC, Canada, V5M 1W9.

If you have questions about anything in the anime field, write us and we will try to give you the best answer, either personnally or in the magazine.

IANUS PUBLICATIONS PRODUCTS

○ Anime Shower Special	#2	$3.25 US/$3.75 Can
○ Anime Shower Special	#3	$4.50 US/Can
○ Mecha•Press	#0	$6.00 US/Can
○ Mecha•Press	#6	$4.95 US/$5.50 Can
○ Mecha•Press	#7	$5.50 US/Can
○ Mecha•Press	#9-10	$5.95 US/Can
○ Poster-Zine (Akira)	#1	$3.95 US/$4.50 Can
○ Protoculture Addicts	#1-9,12,14 ea.	$10.00 US/Can
○ Protoculture Addicts	#10-11 ea.	$2.50 US/$2.95 Can
○ Protoculture Addicts	#15	$2.95 US/$3.50 Can
○ Protoculture Addicts	#16-21 ea.	$3.50 US/$3.95 Can
○ Protoculture Addicts	#22-25	$3.95 US/Can
○ Night's Edge (Cyberpunk - 96 pgs)		$14.95 US/Can
○ Survival of the Fittest (Cyberpunk - 32 pgs)		$8.95 US/Can
○ Necrology Series (Cyberpunk - 3 vol.)		$24.95 US/Can
○ Media Junkie (Cyberpunk - 2 vol.)		$18.95 US/Can
○ King of the Concrete Jungle (Cyberpunk - 40 pgs)		$9.95 US/Can
○ Grimm's Cybertales (Cyberpunk - 128 pgs)		$16.95 US/Can
○ Jovian Chronicles (Mekton II- 112 pgs)		$15.95 US/Can
○ Star Riders (A Funny Game! - 96 pgs)		$14.95 US/Can

Item(s) Ordered: _____ TOTAL order: _____

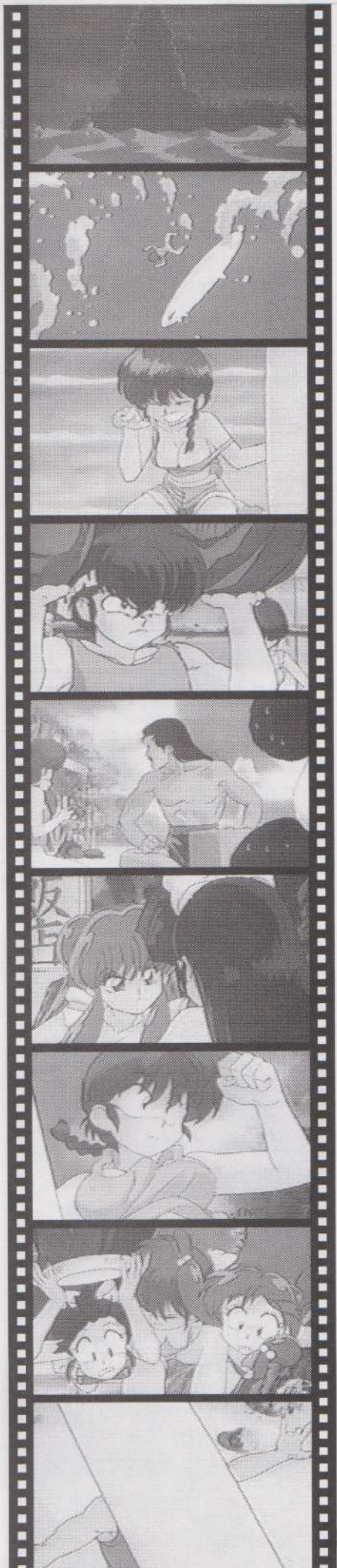
NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

Canadian residents must Add GST -(7%)
For Shipping Add: 1.00$ (3.00$ US Overseas) Per Item.
Checks or Money-Orders must be drawn to Ianus Publications, Inc.

IANUS PUBLICATIONS
5000, rue Iberville, #332, Montréal, Qc., Canada, H2H 2M2



RANMA 1/2 SECOND MOVIE

by Matt Pyson

The movie starts with images of an island in a thunderstorm, dark and foreboding... a mountain fortress in the jungle... a wall bearing a family crest with a peach as the central motif.

Cut to: Nabiki and her family are soaking up the sun on a beach, while Ranma is out in the ocean surfing (in female form, naturally).

Akane and Ryouga are on the shore working on a hut. Ranma hits a wave the wrong way and wipes out near them. Ranma teases Ryouga from the water, asking him why he doesn't take advantage of the waves. Ryouga gets pissed at Ranma. Never one to quit while she's ahead, Ranma keeps teasing Ryouga. Akane just holds her head in her hand as Ryouga gets really pissed off, and throws a large rock at Ranma. Ranma manages to dodge out of the way of the rock as it splashes down, and then makes faces at Ryouga from behind it. Ryouga gets angry and reaches for more rocks....

Nabiki and Kasumi are a short distance down the beach. Nabiki is watching Ryouga pitch a stream of small boulders and rocks into the surf at Ranma-chan. Kasumi (as usual) seems oblivious to all the commotion.

Mousse is sweeping up the Nekohanten hut when Shampoo's great-grandmother, Cologne, tells him to make a delivery. Shampoo intercepts the thrown containers, saying that since it's for Ranma, she'll take it to him. When Mousse protests and tries to follow after Shampoo, Cologne splashes him with water, turning him into a duck.

Ukyou is at her Ur-chan stand, making up a special seafood okonomiyaki for Ranma. When she finishes it though, Shampoo shows up (carrying a pair of delivery boxes) and they have a small disagreement over whose meal Ranma's going to finally end up eating.

At this point Ranma-chan runs up, still holding the surfboard, and still being pursued by Ryouga. Ryouga has a very large rock and throws it in Ranma's direction. Ranma grabs Ukyou and Shampoo and jumps clear so the rock won't hit them. Ranma's surfboard falls and hits Ryouga, laying him out flat in the sand.

The three girls land safely on top of the boulder. Shampoo hears a noise coming from her delivery boxes and throws them up into the air. Happousai bursts out (he's eaten the lunch Shampoo was bringing for Ranma) and immediately begins feeling up Ranma's body. Ranma smacks Happousai high into the air. Happousai escapes down the beach with Ranma's top, leaving Ranma bare-breasted. Ranma hastily covers up, and sets off in angry pursuit of Happousai. Shampoo and Ukyou follow after her. Everyone in the procession manages to trample Ryouga on their way back down the beach.

We pull back from this little parade to reveal the entire island as the movie's title fades onto the screen:

KESSEN TOUGENKYOU! HANAYOME WO TORIMODOSE!!
"THE DECISIVE BATTLE IN TOUGENKYOU! BRING BACK THE BRIDES!!"

Flashback to: The Tendou Dojo, where the girls and their fathers are sweltering in the summer heat. Kunou-sempai shows up with a photo of his new yacht to invite Akane and the pony-tailed girl on a cruise. The rest of the Tendou household winds up inviting themselves along. Ukyou & Shampoo and Ryouga & Mousse invite themselves along, too. Just to make it a clean sweep, Happousai and Shampoo's great-grandmother decide to come along on the trip as well.

Out in the ocean, everybody is enjoying the sailing trip, aside from the fact that the yacht seems to be sailing around in circles. (Oh well.) Kunou is up on the bow, thinking pompous thoughts about the majesty of the seas, and fails to notice some thickening black clouds in the sky.... Ukyou and Shampoo come up from belowdecks and say that they've heard a storm warning on the radio. They warn Kunou who, full of pride in his new yacht, says that nothing bad will happen.

Shortly thereafter we cut to the island with the boat on the shore with its sails ripped and the hull full of holes, and Kunou laboring to repair the damage (Play the opening theme from Gilligan's Island here: "This is the tale of our castaways"). He looks up to see his beloved pony-tailed girl pursuing Happousai in his direction.

Happousai clambers up the mast of Kunou's yacht, causing it to collapse and completely smash the already-damaged boat. Ranma clobbers Happousai, and is looking suspiciously around the beach when Akane pops up and starts bitching her out for breaking the boat. Ranma protests, saying that it's all Happousai's fault. We see a black blob move quickly up the beach toward Kasumi...

Nabiki observes the ruckus down at the yacht and turns around to say something to Kasumi... except that Kasumi isn't there anymore. The only thing left behind is a peach on the ground.

Panic ensues. In the main hut, Mr. Tendou runs around in circles, distraught at the loss of his daughter, as the rest of the group tries to plan strategy. Ranma remarks to Ryouga that the situation is getting grave: with Kasumi missing, Akane may be forced to take over the cooking duties. Akane overhears, and whacks Ranma a good one with a frying pan.

Everyone begins searching for Kasumi. Akane drags the unconscious Ranma off to search while Ryouga dreams that Akane will be eternally grateful to him if he finds her older sister. By this time, however, there is nobody left to team up with but Genma. (Too bad.)

Happousai meets up with Akane and Ranma, and says that he's going to go off and bother Shampoo. Just then Mousse bursts out of the bushes and tells them that Shampoo vanished right in the middle of cooking something. A quick search of the Nekohanten hut turns up... a peach.

Genma and Ryouga are out searching. Genma speculates to a credulous Ryouga that Kasumi might have been eaten by squids. We see a dark blob creeping across the ground as Ukyou shows up (with yet another okonomiyaki) and hears the news of Kasumi's disappearance. It doens't seem to bother her unduly, since she reasons that Ranma will doubtless be starving to death with only Akane's cooking to eat. Ukyou goes off to deliver the okonomiyaki to Ranma, but disappears moments after leaving Genma and Ryouga. We see a peach ooze out of the black spot on the ground where she had been moments earlier. The men panic.

Genma and Ryouga return to the main hut with the peach, only to discover that Nabiki has also gone missing. Mr. Tendou is now even more distraught than before (he's running out of daughters here), as Kunou tells everyone how Nabiki was there one moment and then... Kunou vanishes! [I think Ranma-kun yells out "Sempai!" here, something that he normally would only do while a girl.] Everyone runs

NEW CHARACTERS

Cologne
Shampoo's great-grandmother. She has quite a wealth of knowledge.

Happousai
An old lech who is always collecting the girls' undies. He was once the trainer of the two fathers.

Mousse
Shampoo's unlucky suitor. He is a master of weapons. Transforms into a duck when wet.

Ukyou Kuonji
She has long dark brown hair and tends to cook a lot. She has a crush on Ranma-kun and seems to know of his "problem".

Prince Touma
Master illusionist and ruler of Tougenkyou Island. Since no women are born on the island, he is kidnapping girls from all over to choose himself a bride.

Sarutoru
Monkey-man serving as Touma's right hand.

Toristan
Bird-man henchman of Touma. He seems ashamed of his nature.

Dog-man
Another henchman. Makes your average mutt look bright.

up to where Kunou was standing, and sees that he just fell off the porch. (What a blockhead.)

Everyone figures out that only the girls are being kidnapped. Cologne announces that she knows who is probably next on the list... her! The rest of the group collapses to the floor. Ranma doubts this, and yells that nobody would want to kidnap "an ancient mummy" like her. They decide to be ready when the unknown kidnapper comes for the next victim. By this point however, the only girl left is Akane or.... Everyone in the hut looks at Ranma-kun.

Cut to: a loudly-protesting Ranma-chan, tied to a stake out on the beach underneath a kettle of hot water. The gang is hiding in the bushes, figuring that when the mysterious abductor shows up to take her away they'll all leap out of the bushes and capture him. (Or just pound the snot out of him.)

Naturally, when the odd black spot returns, it goes after Akane instead of Ranma. The black stain begins sucking Akane into the ground! Cologne tells Ryouga to use his "Exploding Point Technique" on the black stain. He does, and the resulting explosion blasts a monkey-man out of the sand. The monkey-man speaks, complimenting Ryouga on his martial arts.

After the monkey-man has been exposed, two more black spots appear on the beach and go after Ranma-chan. Akane manages to pull the rope which tips the kettle over top of Ranma, changing her back into a boy.

The black spots turn out to be a dog-man and a bird-man. A giant peach floats down from the sky and splits open to reveal... a boy. He turns off the light from his giant peach, and introduces himself as "Genjutsu-Ouji Touma" (Prince of Hallucinational Techniques, Touma).

Touma further announces that he has come to take the remaining young women away with him. The monkey-man places a lobster on the ground in front of Touma. Touma takes a flask from his belt and pours some water on the lobster. It turns the lobster into a man! (Well, partially at any rate.) He threatens that if Akane won't come along for his "Suitability- to-Marry-Him" contest, he'll just dump some of this water on her, and no man will ever be interested in her again.

The reactions of Mousse, Ryouga, Genma, and Ranma aren't quite what he was expecting. They see a cure for their curses in this water, and they all charge at Touma en masse, trying to get the flask of water from him.

Touma blasts everyone with a powerful shot of magic while he and his three animal-man servants fly off with Akane. The flying peach heads off towards the dark and foreboding island, which has floated closeby.

Ranma hasn't awakened by the time the others regain consciousness, so they splash him with a bucket of water to get him up. Their plan seems simple and straightforward: to assault Touma's island, get the magic water, and incidentally rescue the kidnapped girls.

Ryouga calls Soun "Father," and promises that he will personally rescue Akane. Mr. Tendou doesn't quite understand why Ryouga is addressing him like a member of the family. Ranma watches as the guys charge off towards Touma's island... and all get transformed into animals as soon as they step into the ocean. Clearly, they're not going to get over there that way.

At about this point, Kunou comes up and hugs Ranma from behind. Ranma freaks out and clobbers Kunou, then acts really cute so that "Kunou- sempai" will take them over to Touma's island in the small boat from the yacht.

Over on the island... Akane is led, blindfolded, down a corridor by Touma's animal-man servants. She is tossed into into a large ballroom, filled with young women dressed in gowns. All of the missing girls are there. (Surprise!) Ukyou comes up to Akane, and wonders what will happen to them. Akane says everything will be all right, that soon Ranma will come to the rescue. Ukyou interprets this to mean that her Ranma will come to save her (Ukyou) soon, irritating Akane.

The imprisoned girls seem to be doing well in their luxurious captivity, although Nabiki is doing rather better than the rest of them: she's taking advantage of their host and is being carried around by some of Touma's guards, sipping oolong tea. Akane is exasperated with her.

Outside, the men and Shampoo's great-grandmother are hiding in the bushes, trying to figure out how to get into Touma's fortress, when an alarm goes off. Happousai comes bounding out of the fortress, carrying (you guessed it) a large sack of girl's panties.

Ranma-chan stops Happousai and yells at him for raising the alarm, since this will make sneaking in much harder. Happousai throws one of his happodaikarin bombs at Ranma, knocking her out. Touma's guards run up to the site of the explosion and find an unconscious pony-tailed girl on the ground. They figure she must be one of Touma's potential brides, and carry her inside the fortress.

The guards take Ranma-chan to a wardrobe room to get some suitable attire. Shampoo's great-grandmother is in there (she snuck in while the guards were occupied with Ranma) and offers to select a nice dress for her, since she's uncertain of what to wear. Ranma comes out wearing a gown with her hair really long. Drop-dead beautiful, and trying to act very ladylike. Even the monkey-man is impressed, and offers to escort her to the waiting room.

They take Ranma to the large room with all of the missing girls. Akane is happy to see Ranma until Shampoo jumps past Akane and hugs Ranma, which pisses Akane off.

Touma makes a grand entrance and takes his seat on the throne. The girls comment that Touma is just a kid, and too young for them. Ranma tries to snuggle up to Touma (so she can steal the flask with the magic water in it) by claiming to be Touma's long-suffering fiancee. Touma doesn't buy it, and tells her she'll have to compete for the right to be his fiancee. He orders his servant the monkey-man to announce a series of "kakutou" (martial arts) competitions so he can determine the most suitable bride among the girls.

Ranma participates because a) she wants to win so she'll get close enough to Touma to steal the flask of water, and b) the contests have the word "kakutou" in its name, and Ranma's got this thing about never losing that sort of contest.

The first contest is moving grains of rice from one plate to another using chopsticks. Some of the girls opine that the contests are silly, and ask what will happen if they don't participate. The bird-man presents them with an enormous bill for all the luxury accommodations they've been enjoying, and says they'll have to pay it if they don't compete. (There had to be a catch someplace.) Nabiki is distressed at this.

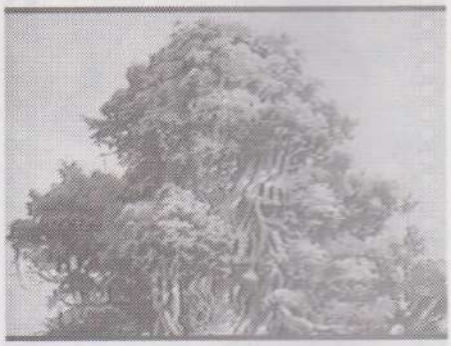
The contest begins, and Ranma uses her martial arts skills to get done first, but Touma tells her that he didn't enjoy watching the contest. It doesn't count, he says. Ranma protests but Touma smugly tells her to go or she'll miss the next contest. Ranma vows to win all the other contests, too.

The second contest is something like flower arranging, except the "flower" is a gigantic Venus Flytrap monstrosity. The plant grabs Akane and several other girls. Ranma defeats the plant by wrapping it in vines and putting it in a fountain, and Touma says "Fantastic, fantastic!" but then, "Let's keep going." Akane is still trapped in the plant, and yells at Ranma to get her out of it.

Touma calls for another contest. Ranma complains about not being the winner. Touma says he's having too much fun to declare a winner. The next contest is an endurance run. To get

AUTHOR'S NOTES

Here are some interesting pieces of information that I found out while working on this synopsis. Hopefully they will help you understand the story better. Many thanks to the readers of Shampoo-L who helped me understand this story better.



TOUGENKYOU

A legendary paradise in China. But the kanji for "gen" and "kyou" have been changed in this movie.

Prince Tarou, the antagonist in this story, is based on a character from a famous Japanese folk tale, "Momotarou Densetsu" (Legend of Momotarou). The story of which goes like this:

Once upon a time, there was an old man and woman. One day, she went to the river to wash clothes. Then a big peach floated down from the upper stream of the river. They brought the peach home and cut it

the brides on their feet, a swarm of mice is herded into the room. Ranma is unfazed. The mice are being herded into the room by a a swarm of... cats. Ranma loses it.

Meanwhile, Ryouga drops nimbly from the roof out in the corridor, only to be squashed as the rest of the party falls on him. (So much for stealth.) They begin searching for the missing girls, and run straight into... a whole roomfull of guards! Apologizing and leaving quickly doesn't seem to mollify the guards any. The guards jump up and chase them.

Ranma is running around the room, frantically trying to get away from the cats. Eventually she slams face-first into a decorative tree. Touma is incredibly amused by this, and commands the monkey-man to announce the next contest, just so he can see what amusing things Ranma-chan will do next.

Down on the floor of the ballroom, Nabiki tries to keep the action going by shouting encouragement to Ranma, still dazed from hitting the tree: "C'mon, Ranma! Fight!" The next contest is cooking, and Ranma grimly sets out to win this one too.

The gang charges into the ballroom. They've found the missing girls, but are quickly surrounded as Touma's guards catch up with them. The monkey-man looks to Touma for instructions. He orders the guards to attack the trespassers. A free-for-all erupts between the martial artists and the guards. Ranma finishes cooking a perfect rice-omelet just in time to have her face shoved into it by Genma, who doesn't appreciate fighting tons of guards without his loyal offspring's help.

Chaos reigns in Touma's domain, and he's having a great time. He looks up just in time to see Akane marching up to him. Akane slaps Touma in the face. She yells at him because he's making all these people suffer just for his entertainment. The monkey-man restrains Akane before she can slap Touma again. Touma is quiet for a moment, and then asks Akane what her name is. She tells him.

Touma says that he likes Akane's spirit, and selects her to be his bride. The monkey-man, Sarutoru, asks Prince Touma about the remaining bride candidates. Touma says "Oh, I don't care. You can have them," and so the girls are given to the hired help. The guards all cheer and dash out of the room, each with a girl over his shoulder. The bird-man and the dog-man run off with Shampoo and Nabiki, respectively.

Akane is stunned that Touma selected her. Ranma is stunned too, and jumps up with Touma and Akane to get him to change his mind. Ranma, unfortunately, does this by telling Touma that he won't like being married to Akane because she's not cute, is a violent tomboy, etcetera etcetera, whereas Ranma-chan is very cute, nice and pleasant, and therefore ideal as bride-material. Akane takes these comments rather personally, and is so angry with Ranma that she clobbers her (with the throne Touma was sitting on) and stalks off with the young prince. The pair of them disappear. Mr. Tendou is distraught over losing his daughters again. Shampoo's great grandmother sits up on her staff, contemplating the destruction wrought on Touma's waiting room.

Touma takes Akane to his personal chambers high in the trees, and gives her tea...

Touma: Do you like my room?

Akane: Sure... What's that?

Touma: This is a picture of my mother and me.

Akane: Your mother?

Touma: She died soon after I was born. Sometimes I wonder what kind of woman she was...

Akane: You also lost your...

Touma: So did you, Akane?

Akane: Yeah, ...but I have my father and sisters...

Touma: I'm never lonely either. The whole crew in this island are like my family...and, I have you now.

Akane: Touma...

Touma: With you somehow I feel good, very good.

Akane: Can't be! There're many girls more pretty and lovely than me...

Touma: In this island only males are born from early times by the magical force of the spring, which wells out in the center and turns any creature which falls down there into a man. It's so to speak a cursed island.

Akane: Turn into a man...

Prince Touma also uses his peach amulet to open some doors in the floor, and shows Akane the source of the magic water: a spring, located deep inside the mountain.

Akane: What's that?

Touma: That's the spring. Because of it we have to get brides from outside.

Akane: Touma?

Touma: However, the spring is sacred since it protects the island. The story of the spring is a secret of only two of us. You'll stay here with me, won't you?

Akane: I can't, I have my fiance'...

Touma: Fiance'? Do you like him?

Akane: Oh no! Such an insensitive, thoughtless guy! When you get down to it, he's a fiance' our parents decided for themselves!

Touma: Then you don't have to care!

Akane: Eh?

Touma: I'll knock down him if he comes!

An alarm goes off. Touma closes the doors to the cavern and talks with his guards through a speaking tube. He goes to deal with the disturbance, leaving Akane locked in his chambers. The rest of the group decides to split up and rescue the girls individually.

Nabiki is taken to the dog-man's quarters. She keeps swatting him with a pillow and then tells him that he can't just attack her like that — she wants some expensive presents first. The dog-man tries giving her a bone with a bow tied around it. Nabiki sighs.

Kunou and the pony-tailed girl show up. Actually you hear Ranma say "Keep your hands off me!" and then Kunou flies in through the door. The dog-man stops Kunou in mid-air. Kunou attacks the dog-man and is knocked through the wall. Ranma tries fighting the dog-man, but has a tough time of it, since he's incredibly powerful.

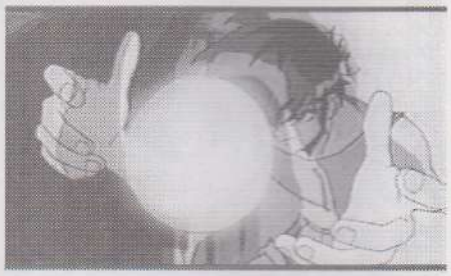
Determined to save Nabiki and the pony-tailed girl from this monster (and too stupid to realize when he's outclassed), Kunou returns and keeps attacking the dog-man. He winds up being pounded into the floor until Nabiki finally gets the dog-man's attention.

Nabiki has an interesting solution to the situation: Shake hands! The dog-man does. Sit up! The dog-man does. She shows him the bone, and then throws it out the window. The dog-man jumps after the bone. Bye-bye!

open, and found a male baby inside. They named him "Momotarou" (Peach-boy) and brought him up. When he became a strong young boy, he decided to go to Oni-ga-shima (Island of Oni) to get rid of an evil Oni. On his way there a dog, a monkey and a bird became his servants. They all finally reached Oni-ga-shima and succeeded in getting rid of the evil Oni.

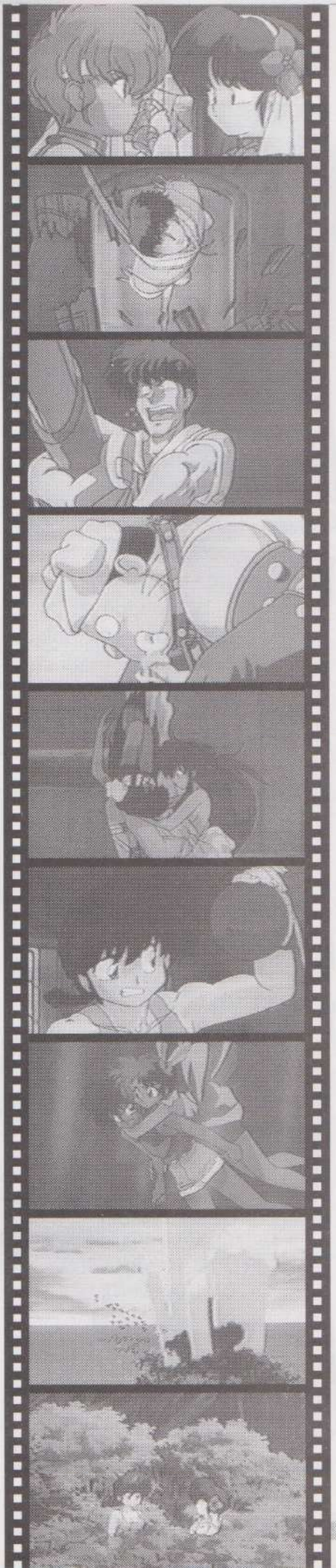
OOLONG TEA

Oolong tea tastes similar to black tea without sugar. Oolong tea is produced in China and is recently a popular drink in Japan.



SHISHI HOUKOUDAN (Lion's Roar Projectile)

From "Ranma 1/2 Nettouhen" TV episodes #123 and #124. It's supposed to be a variant on the Bakusai Tenketsu (Exploding Point Technique) that Ryouga uses on rocks — except that it works on people. They're both supposed to be "Engineering" techniques, for destroying rock, apparently. It's based on focussing your depressing/"heavy" emotions, and then projecting them at your opponent.



Ranma-chan is amazed at this display of trickery. Nabiki comments that she has a way with animals, helps Kunou off the floor, and they set off to find the rest of the group. Kunou is under the impression that the dog-man ran away because he was frightened by Kunou's skill.

Mr. Tendou is running around searching for his daughters and finds Kasumi. Contrary to his fears, she isn't being ravaged by the guard who carried her off... actually, she's going to make him a nice dinner with the groceries he's carrying for her.

Shampoo is taken by the bird-man, Toristan, to his aviary-like quarters. She spurns his advances, and tells the bird-man that she already has a strong sweetheart (meaning Ranma naturally), when Mousse enters the room. Toristan assumes Mousse is Shampoo's sweetheart and they start to fight for her, ignoring what she says to correct them. The bird-man is about to finish Mousse off when Shampoo intervenes and helps him out a little bit, hitting Toristan in the face.

The bird-man's mask comes off. Shampoo and Mousse stare for a second: he really IS a bird under the mask! Shampoo laughs hysterically. Mousse tries not to laugh, but can't resist either. Toristan loses his cool. He attacks both Shampoo and Mousse with a lot of feather-shuriken, and gives Shampoo one last chance to agree to marry him. She says she prefers death to marrying him. The bird-man says she shall have her wish.

Mousse staggers, and gets back up. The bird-man is amazed: nobody could get back up after that attack. Mousse shakes off the feather-shuriken, and clobbers the bird-man. As he defeats the bird-man, Mousse passes out and falls off the perch. Shampoo catches him before he hits the floor. She finally seems to be taking pity on Mousse.

Ryouga starts looking for Akane all over again. He goes into a room and finds Ukyou and the monkey-man. Since he's looking for Akane, not Ukyou, Ryouga starts to leave! Ukyou and Ryouga argue about whether Ryouga should stop and save her or whether he should just keep looking for Akane. The monkey-man watches the argument, vainly trying to get a word in edgewise.

The argument finally reaches a pause, so Sarutoru uses some sort of mind-affecting special technique on Ryouga. It's a technique that makes you think you see the worst thing you can imagine. Ryouga is enveloped in vapors, and imagines that he walked into the room and, instead of seeing Sarutoru and Ukyou, sees Ranma and Akane sitting together. Akane looks up and says "What are you doing here? I finally manage to get some time alone with Ranma, and you butt in. I really hate you."

This disables Ryouga with depression for a few seconds, but depressing Ryouga is always a bad idea. He uses his Shishi Houkoudan technique... 5... 4... 3... 2... 1...

SHISHI HOUKOUDAN! Ryouga takes the monkey-man out completely with a massive stream of energy. End of fight. Ryouga collapses. Ukyou picks him up and they head off to look for the others.

Ranma bursts into Touma's chambers and sees Akane. But before he can get to her, Touma appears. Ranma fights with Touma. Touma throws Ranma several times but he still keeps fighting. Finally Touma notices that Ranma is trying to get his flask, so he tosses it to him. Ranma upends the flask over his head but it is empty. Ranma keeps fighting Touma so he will tell him the location of the magic spring.

Touma draws his sword, and decides he's had enough of Ranma. He tries to kill him with a massive blast of fire. Ranma is reminding himself that Touma's magic is all a hallucination when the fire hits him. Touma is shocked when Ranma resists the attack and gets in a deciding blow. Touma is knocked down, and loses his peach amulet. Akane picks it up, asks Touma to forgive her, and then opens the door into the cavern where the magic spring is.

Ranma goes into the cavern. Touma gets up and starts fighting Ranma again. He puts Akane into a small train of mine cars nearby and sets off for the bottom of the cavern, trying to escape. Touma and Ranma fight until about halfway down the tracks, when Ranma derails the mine cars and sends them all flying.

Touma grabs onto the tracks and arrests his fall, but Ranma and Akane end up plunging straight toward the magic spring...

Ranma: That's the spring?
Akane: Now you can be a real man again!
Ranma: It's impossible.
Akane: Eh?
Ranma: I'll destroy the spring!
Akane: Stop! If you do it, you'll...
Ranma: You said you don't care, even if I'm as I am!
Akane: But...
Ranma: For me, the present Akane is the best too... so I'll do it!
Akane: Ranma...

Ranma blasts the bottom of the pool out with the Moukou Takabisha technique. A gigantic plume of water rushes up through the cavern, engulfing Ranma and Akane, and shooting them out the top of the mountain. They wind up in the trees, both uninjured, and both female. They see a rainbow.

Later, Akane talks to Touma with Ranma. Touma admits his fault and decides to look for his real bride. Ranma says that it is wise for Touma to give up on Akane because she's so coarse and unyieldin—

Akane elbows Ranma in the stomach. She thanks him for making such a great sacrifice for her sake by destroying the magic spring. Genma, Ryouga, and Mousse are livid that Ranma destroyed the spring, until Sarutoru tells them that they don't have to worry. The spring consists of the sap of holy trees and will recover in only a few hundred years. Everyone's jaw drops in disbelief.

During the Closing Credits the song "A Piece of Love" is played (loudly) and there are scenes of everyone finishing up their vacation on the floating island with Touma and his animal-man servants. Everyone in the cast says "Bye-Bye" and the Katakana for BAI BAI appears on the screen at the very end.

MOUKOU TAKABISHA
(Fierce Tiger Domineering)

Ranma develops a variant of the Shishi Houkoudan to be able to counter Ryouga in "Ranma 1/2 Nettouhen" TV episode #124. In Ranma's version of the technique, you focus your *confidence* (instead of your negative emotions) and project it at your opponent.

JAPANIMATION
PRODUCTION CELS

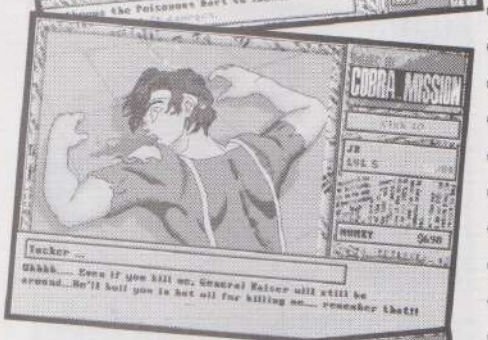
TITLES INCLUDE:

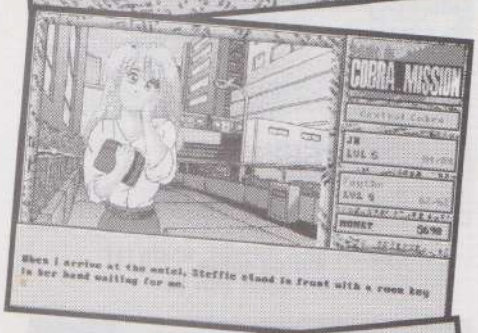
AKIRA, ROBOT CARNIVAL,
GUYVER, MAGMA,
AND MANY MORE.
VIDEOS ALSO AVAILABLE
FOR MORE INFORMATION,
CALL OR WRITE

ANIMANIA

P.O.BOX 770134
LAKEWOOD, OH 44107

(216) 226-3970





COBRA MISSION EXPOSED

by Robert Dubois

Cobra Mission is the first game produced by MEGATECH software. MEGATECH has given the game a NR-18 Rating, meaning that it is not recommended for players under 18. It is basically a role-playing game with a slightly different reward system. With most games the story ends once you have solved the mystery and rescue the girl. Cobra Mission adds a few details that are usually left out of other games, such as when the girl is rescued she may feel indebted to you and may want to see you again later. For that reason she may leave you her phone number so you can get in touch later. It is up to you to call and find out just how the reward system works.

In case your having problems getting through the first level, I have a few hints that will help. When you first start the game, I recommend that you first go to the Rocket Delivery which is east of Faythe's house. At the Rocket Delivery you will obtain the Red Cap and a map of Central Cobra. You will need weapons so I suggest that you head south and find Bar BJ, there you will find a pocket knife hidden in one of the trees. Then proceed west and find the Old Man's Garden, there you will find a metallic bat hidden in the bushes. Once you have those two weapons you are ready to explore Central Cobra. Make sure to visit the following locations (Bridge, Railway Crossing, Railway Station, City Hall, and Bar BJ).

If after having visited all the locations in Central Cobra and you still don't know how to find the Boss here is a suggestion. Visit the following locations in this order: Club 10, Bar BJ, City Hall, Bar BJ, Club 10 (you will lose Faythe at this point), Bar BJ, Rocket Delivery (only if you don't have any goods), Club 10 (time to rescue Faythe). If you're having trouble killing Tracker because you're too weak, here is a simple solution: buy lots of Poisonous Darts to use against Tracker. Once Tracker is defeated you will meet Steffie who will be very indebted to you.

Go back to Faythe's house and give Steffie a call; you won't regret it. If you're having trouble getting Steffie in the mood without any toys, here is a suggestion. When Steffie is in a towel use the following technique (Hand-Bosom, Lips-Neck, Lips-Bosom, Lips-Lips, Lips-Bosom) and (Lips-G spot, Lips-G spot, Whisper, Whisper, Hand-Bosom, Hand-Bosom, Hand-Hair, Hand-Leg, Ready to Go!!) when she is in the tub. The sound effects are also very interesting; even people with PC Speakers will enjoy this new reward system.

With sales in the tens of thousands of units sold, MEGATECH software seems to have found a niche in the computer game industry. We look forward to their new projects "Metal & Lace" and "Dragon Knight III" with great expectation.

On the plus side Cobra Mission has a Unique reward system, but the random combat sequences can get rather long and tiresome. All in all, I recommend this game for mature gamers only. ***

ANIME TOUR '93

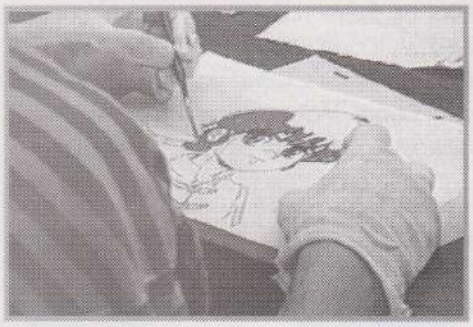
by Robert Dubois

ANIME AMERICA 1993:

Here are my first impressions of California when debarking the plane at San Jose, "Man Ir's HOT here". It was 105° F — that's 40° C for those using the metric system. Back in Montreal lets just say its a little bit cooler.

Dealers Room at Anime America.

Anime America took place on the weekend of June 26th this year at the Westin Hotel/Santa Clara Convention Center, the week before Anime Expo. This was the first year with two anime conventions, and attendance did suffer a bit because of it. The Con was dedicated to memory of Dr. Osamu Tezuka, who created ASTRO BOY, JUNGLE EMPEROR, and numerous other animated features. As with previous conventions some of the scheduled guests could not make it because of work. But at lease Monkey Punch (Creator of LUPIN III), Kenichi Sonoda (Character Designer for BUBBLEGGUM CRISIS), and a few other guests found time to attend.



Ranma 1/2 Cel Painting, run by Don Yee.

Some of the activities at the Con included a cel painting class run by Don Yee, parties and screenings. A birthday party was held to celebrate the 30th anniversary of ASTRO BOY. One of the hot spots at the Con was the Donjinshi room with the Japan comic market. The real big after hours event at Anime America was the Sonoda Party. There was no ice left in any of the ice machines. The party room was so crammed with people that it was like a heat wave when you entered the room. Mr. Sonoda also took time to draw caricatures of some of the female guests at the party. We are very sure that Mr. Sonoda enjoyed the party as much as we did.

Guest of Honor Kenichi Sononda meets some of his fans, after a wild party thrown in his honor.

To all the staff at Anime America, a job well done and best of luck next year in San Jose.

MASQUERADE

Kiki and Ryo Saeba

Lupin III, Inspector Zenigata, and Jigen

The Ianus table in Anime America's Dealer's Room:

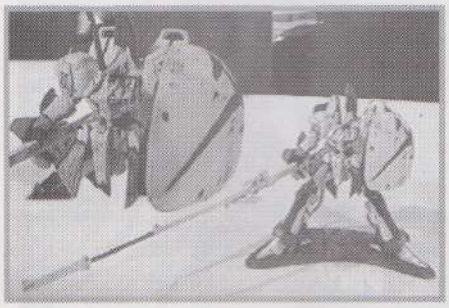
during setup...

...and during the con.

MODEL COMPETITION WINNERS

Best of Show: Narcasse
by Crystal Gronnestad

1st place, Characters: Ukyou Kuonji
by Mathew Chow



1st place, Mecha: Led Mirage
by Ray Rappaport

1st place, Miscellaneous: Late Night Encounter
by William Monteleon

ANIME EXPO 1993:

Yasuhiro Imagawa

Anime Expo took place on the weekend of July 3rd at the Parc Oakland Hotel/Oakland Convention Center. Attendance was also down a bit, because of the two conventions in two weeks. As with Anime America some of the scheduled guests could not make it because of work. The one major loss was Mr. Haruhiko Mikimoto (Character Designer for MACROSS). Guests attending included Mr. Yasuhiro Imagawa (Director of GIANT ROBO), Mr. Makoto Kobayashi (Mecha Designer for GIANT ROBO and many other animations), and Mr. Masatoshi Tahara (Chief of Kitty Film Mitaka Animation Studio). Also attending were Mr. Scott Frasier (The first non-Japanese to make inroads into the anime industry in Japan), Mr. Takayuki Takeya (The Model God), and Mr. Keita Amemiya (Director of ZEIRAM).

Makoto Kobayashi

Takayuki Takeya & Kieta Amemiya

The main highlight of Anime Expo was the premier of GIANT ROBO Part 3, which Mr. Imagawa brought with him from Japan. An other important announce came from Pioneer. They announced that they would start releasing Laser Discs with Japanese, English Dub, and English Subtitles in the closed caption. A model competition was held and judged by a panel consisting of some of the staff from MECHA PRESS and Anime Expo staff. The Grand Prize (A 1/35th scale Knight of Gold) was given to Crystal Gronnestad from Anchorage Alaska for her Narcasse model.

To the staff of Anime Expo best of luck next year in Anaheim.

Masatoshi Tahara

Dealers Room at Anime Expo.

JOVIAN CHRONICLES

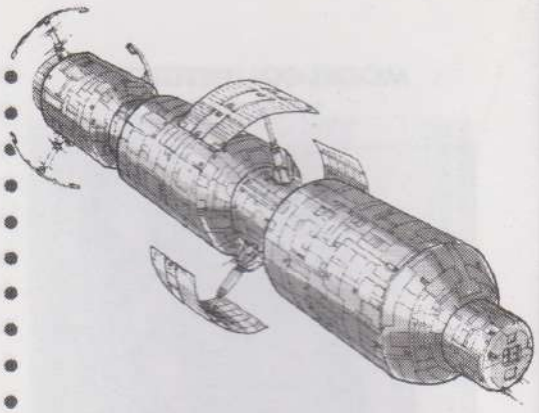
JOVIAN CHRONICLES, the first book of a new campaign series for MEKTON II (published by Dream Pod 9 under a license by R. Talsorian Games), was written with one objective in mind: to re-create the true spirit of MOBILE SUIT GUNDAM, which has often been approximated in gaming but never to the point where true fanatics would have liked. Taking place in 2210, the action is centered around the orbit of Jupiter and introduces us to the political environment of humanity living in space. Each planet's political system is described in detail, as well as their dominant commercial and industrial entities.

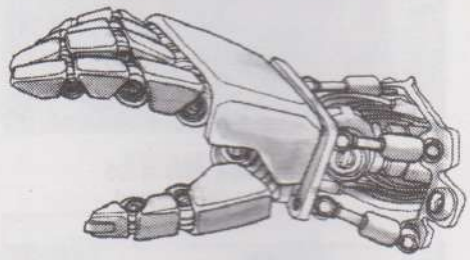
In this first book, the main protagonists are the Jovians (Jupiter) and the Cega (Central Earth Government and Administration), with the thinly secured peace jeopardized by the political maneuvering of many special interest parties. Although this part of the book is well written, informative and to the point, the most interesting sections are "Character Designs" and "Mechanical Catalog". Inspired by the style of Yoshikazu Yasuhiko (who designed the characters for GUNDAM M.S., VENUS WARS, CRUSHER JOE and numerous other animations), the characters drawn by Alex Racine truly have this GUNDAM feeling avidly sought for the otaku. This feeling of Japanese-style animation is retained throughout the book, especially in the "Mechanical Catalog". The mecha designs, created and drawn by John Moscato, are amazingly realistic. Each machine is accompanied by a full historical background, as well as technical data and cut-away views of various vehicles (the cut-away of the "Pathfinder" on page 46 is especially impressive) which were designed in such a way as to be considered some of the most realistic animation-style mechanical designs ever created (by realistic I mean technically achievable in the near future!). All this material is accompanied by an "Episode Guide" made of twelve episodes that, when put together, form an entire campaign. As far as playing goes, JOVIAN CHRONICLES offers an alternate setting to Talsorian's Algol Universe. It supports very well Talsorian efforts to revive MEKTON with their publication of the MEKTON TECHBOOK (last year) and the gorgeous RIMFIRE (this summer). By my standard, MEKTON is the best, most entertaining, and adaptable RPGs around. But we knew that for a long time.

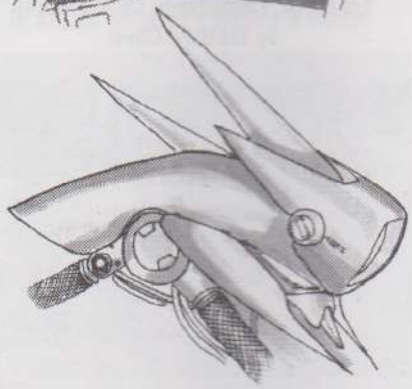
All in all, JOVIAN CHRONICLES is a cool book (nice layout, superb illustrations) offering a nice story and an enjoyable adventure by Marc-Alexandre Vézina. With this project, the Dream Pod 9 team wanted to give a true and vivid GUNDAM feeling while also pleasing the large mecha gamer group constituted predominatly by the BATTLETECH fans. It seems that those objectives were successfully reached. The second book, EUROPA INCIDENT, is due soon and will — without a doubt — be as good as JOVIAN. What is nice with recent MEKTON sourcebooks like JOVIAN CHRONICLES or RIMFIRE is that you don't need to be a gamer to appreciate them: you can just read them for the anime-like story and the cool mecha!

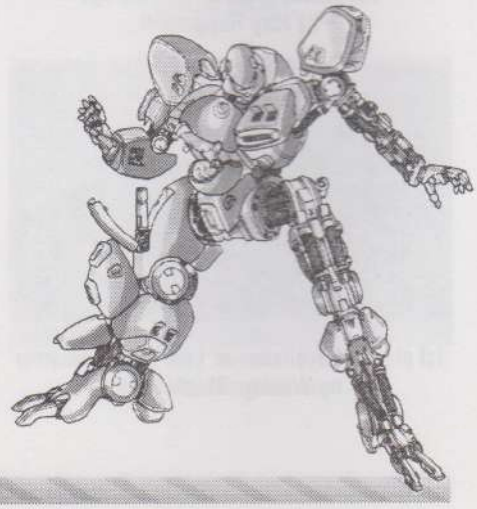
I must admit that it is difficult to be totally objective toward JOVIAN CHRONICLES since it is published by Dream Pod 9, the gaming division of Ianus Publications. But I can't help it — I just like it.

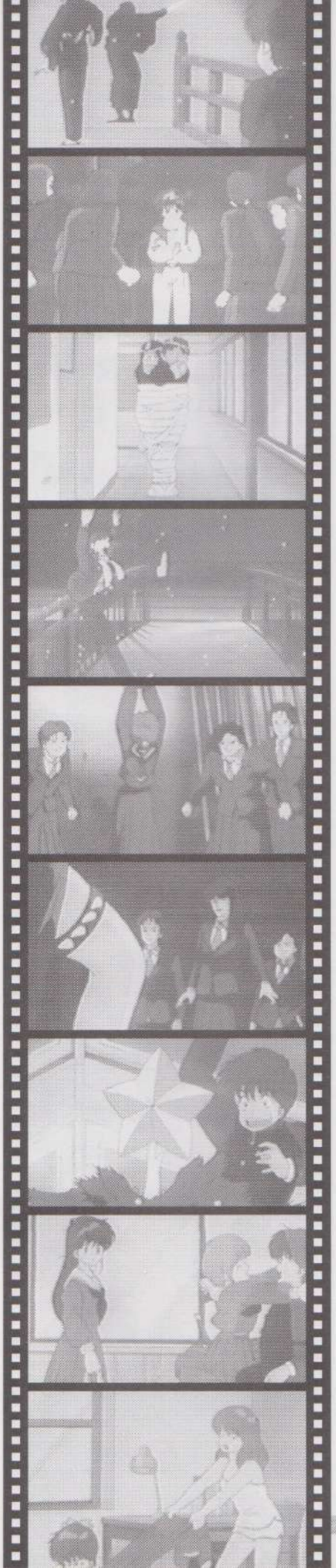
Martin Ouellette











WHIMSICAL EPISODE GUIDE

by Alain Dubreuil

EPISODE 37

Orange Chivalry! Madoka's Snowstorm Duel

Kyosuke is dreaming again. This time, Madoka is in the midst of a death duel and Kyosuke tries to talk her out of it. He falls from the bridge named AbCb's counter. Another premonition?

He walks Madoka home after work when they find Oryu, Madoka's old streetwise sensei. Oryu is injured and a gang is after her. Ayukawa succeeds in hiding her from the pack then takes her home to tend to her injuries. Oryu leaves, asking Madoka not to get involved. Kyosuke is speechless when he learns of Madoka's "old days".

Next morning at school, people talk about the Red Wolf, a female street gang. The twits try to get the twins' attention pretending injuries, but end up mummified. Better luck next time. Hikaru tells Kyosuke of her worries: she thinks Madoka might get involved because of Oryu.

Madoka learns that Oryu has been captured; she acts. While loading up on picks, she daydreams of her street days, of how Oryu once helped her, and also of Kyosuke. Hikaru arrives at Madoka's, closely followed by Yuhsaku; she tries to convince her not to go. Yuhsaku pledges his help. Madoka denies both. She walks alone until the river bridge, when Kyosuke catches up.

Kyosuke pleads with her and tries to follow her, but he slips on the icy bridge and falls. Madoka runs away, a shadow in the falling snow. She closes on the gang's HQ, neutralizes the guards, then challenges the Red Wolf leader by cutting her skateboard in two with her trademark throwing pick. Madoka offers a duel: a skateboard race. Both girls start from atop a building (in construction); they must ride on the "I" beams, no holds barred and the first one at ground level wins. They battle. Meanwhile, Hikaru, Yuhsaku and Kyosuke arrive; they witness the race.

Taking a bad turn, the gang leader falls towards death, but Kyosuke catches her telekinetically, and suspends her from a lead pipe a few floors above ground. Madoka arrives and stumbles off her skateboard into Kyosuke's arms. They smile and hug, while Oryu watches.

At the hospital, Oryu is getting better. She offers a cigarette to Madoka who declines, mentioning that someone asked her to stop. Kyosuke stumbles upon the conversation and drops his bouquet at this remark. Oryu then notices him and smile. Madoka blushes, embarrassed by this disclosure of their relationship.

EPISODE 38

Kyosuke Time Travels! Third Christmas

While Kyosuke is preparing a Christmas tree, he falls. The twits pop confetti in his face "Merry Christmas Mr. Kasuga! Merry Christmas Mr. Indecisive". The twits have organized a couples-only party.

School. The twits bait the twins, Kyosuke objects. The twits hurl a deadly blow: "Who will you invite?" While he ponders, they flee with their prizes. Kyosuke tries to invite Madoka but Hikaru flying into his arms hijacks the invitation. Madoka leaves disappointed.

Home. The sisters are fighting over clothes (again!). On the street, Yuhsaku corners Kyosuke. He's mad, since he wanted to invite Hikaru. A pizza truck runs wildly at them, almost killing Yuhsaku. Kyosuke retreats. He later meets Hikaru and leaves for the party. They go to the hall after helping (?) an old lady on her way. Yuhsaku's date is a parrot. Kyosuke arrives, but he keeps thinking about Madoka. He calls, but cannot reach her. He sees her being interviewed by a TV

reporter. She's sad and lonely. He falls in the hall stairway as he leaves to join her.

Christmas tree, take 2. AAARGH! Time slipped again! But this time, he won't be stopped from inviting Madoka. At school, he hides in a closet with Madoka, beggin her to come to the party. She agrees. Outside, marauding Hikaru bites the dust. Again, he meets Yuhsaku. The latter is happy; he can invite Hikaru. Stunned, Yuhsaku is saved from the pizza truck by Kyosuke, but a falling repairman falls on him, breaking Yuhsaku's arm. Madoka, dressed sexily, and Kyosuke walk to the dance. Old lady take 2, the short version. Yuhsaku's date is a goldfish. Hikaru awaits her faithful darling at the top of the hall's stairs. Seeing the couple, she cries and takes off. Embarrassed, Madoka leaves Kyosuke.

Stair tumble. Tree fall. Twits attack. Kyosuke knows better: he will escort both girls to the dance. Yuhsaku is no longer happy; he is on the juice. He dodges the pizza truck, avoids the repairman, but a giant Christmas tree gets him (Merry Christmas Yuhsaku!). Kyosuke is alone this time, so he walks the old lady to her destination. At the party, Yuhsaku's date is a turtle (not a mutant, not a ninja). Kyosuke arrives with his two happy girls. Celebrations. Lights out. Santa arrives... twice! It is grandpa and grandma who play the vile impersonators.

Kyosuke tries to stop them from using power, but is knocked down the stairs by a reindeer's sneaky sideswipe. Christmas tree sequence. Twits part 4. Kyosuke is happy — NOT!

EPISODE 39

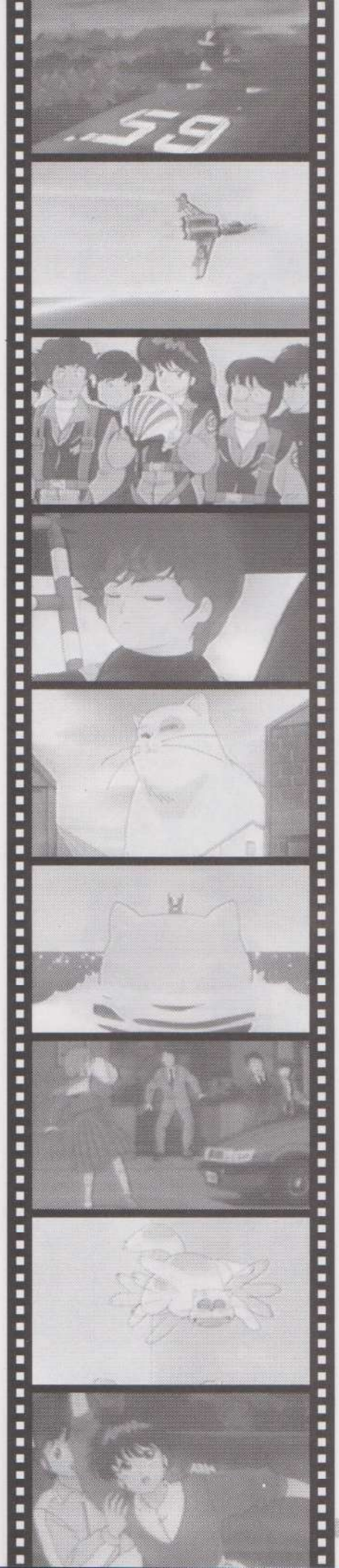
Hypnotized Madoka! Kyosuke's Risky New Year"

Yet another dream. A bunny suited Madoka is cooking for Kyosuke on New Year's Day. He awakes. Back to the 31st. Kurumi tries hypnosis on Kyosuke and successfully makes him think he's a dog. Manami claps him out of it. He's mad but dad prevents him from chastising mischievous Kurumi.

AbCb. Kyosuke is told that Madoka will go to America to spend the holidays with her parents. He's not pleased. He runs to her home but gets no answer. Trying to get in he finds the door unlocked and music playing; Madoka is unconscious on the floor! He takes her to her bedroom and has many hormonally-inspired ideas. After covering her with her coat, he draws a bath for her, but also notices her plane ticket. While Kyosuke is out, Madoka is awakened by Hikaru's phone call. She then catches Kyosuke in the bathroom, hugging him from behind. Later, Madoka prepares noodles and eats with Kyosuke as they talk. He tells her of his morning adventure and how easy hypnosis is; she asks him to demonstrate. Kyosuke demonstrates, laughing it off. He then notices that her eyes possess an empty look. He tries to "revive" her, but she only tells him:" By your command, master". Kyosuke is even more appalled when she asks him to call her Madoka. His bunny dream came true! HE asks for some tea and has hormonally-induced daydreams, spilling tea on himself. She bandages him, then he asks her for a shoulder massage and to clean his ears (ecstasy!). He decides he'll give her a massage but stops her as she starts to unzip her dress! They decide to take a walk to the New Year's Market.

They manage to dodge the twits, but not the roaming professors! They finally elude the gym teacher, but are surprised by Yuhsaku who is rebuffed by Madoka. He decides to get revenge since he cannot confront Hikaru or her questioning. He trains and decides he will save the planet by eradicating Kyosuke. Meanwhile, Madoka draws up a bath, and is about to help Kyosuke disrobe. He stops her, and dreams what it would be like to bathe with her. He calls out to Madoka, but hears Hikaru entering! Panic!!! He dresses up as fast as possible, imagining the worst. He manages to greet Hikaru as she runs towards the bathroom. Madoka has snapped out of her hypnosis. She mischievously indicates to him that he put his pants on backwards! Hikaru is stunned.

They all go to the New Year's celebration, Kyosuke chasing Madoka, with Hikaru trailing behind, screaming "What's happening?". They stop as they see and hear the Unmasked Avenger! Yuhsaku challenges Kyosuke... what a way to start the New Year.



EPISODE 40

It's Hatsuyume! Jingoro The Monster Strikes Back

YES!!! Alert! Sea monster on the loose: the members of T.A.P. GUN are on a seek and destroy (and interview) mission. Madoka is flight leader of the elite air force team, with Yuhsaku, Hatta and Komatsu (elite?!?) as wing-mates. They sight the monster and shoot it with missiles: no effect! Then, an unknown bogey appears! It's Black Fighter, who comes to save the day. He fires and wounds the monster, but the latter escapes. The planes land on the aircraft carrier. Madoka rushes to Black Fighter until she realizes who the pilot is: her first man, Kyosuke.

Later, Captain Ayukawa and Black Fighter are briefed on a new threat: the G monster. Commander Takashi offers Black Pilot a wad of money to take the job. At AbCb, Hatta and Komatsu are being themselves, teasing two young waitresses (the twins), while Black Fighter discusses with Master the beauty, Ayukawa, who drinks alone. Master comments "Rumor says she's staying faithful to her man".

The camera switches to Hikaru, caretaker of an orphanage sponsored by Kyosuke's earnings as Black Fighter. He escapes her attention, the fine meal, and dodges the loving orphans. The monster comes into the city's harbor. The G Monster (a cat — NOT!) rampages through the city, mawing a full load of fish. Then he goes to the Eiffel Tower (?). T.A.P. GUN scrambles! Their missiles are ineffective. Madoka tries a desperate point-blank attack that the G Monster turns back against her, taking her plane down. Black Fighter power dives and apparently kills the beast. But the princesses, Manami and Kurumi (?!?) revive him with a gentle melody, and the trio swim into the sunset.

Meanwhile, Kyosuke has managed to eject safely. Back at AbCb, he announces his retirement as a jet pilot. Saddened by Ayukawa's death, he will try his best to become a farmer... like she would have liked. TADA! Ayukawa appears! As they move closer to kiss, they hold each other, and when the camera pans away, Hikaru jumps in front of it! She demands that Komatsu rewrites the end so that the end includes her and darling, complaining that she looks like a twit in this film, and... So much for another fine Komatsu Production.

EPISODE 41

Immobile Madoka! Kyosuke's Wonder Watch

Kyosuke's hormones live! He, Hikaru, and Madoka are on a street corner, discussing tomorrow's tennis game: Minis and tight tops (Hentai!). Hikaru's racket falls on the street. She goes to pick it up, but a car is about to hit her. Then everything goes red and still. Kyosuke is at first panicked: what's happening? His grandparents then come into the scene, telling him to go and get Hikaru before she gets flattened. Everything returns to normal.

At home, grandpa shows everyone his Time Watch, which freezes time for one minute and affects everyone except for people with power. Grandma gives it to Kyosuke.

Next day at the tennis game, the whole gang splits in pairs: the winning pair kisses. Kyosuke is teamed with Hikaru, confronting Madoka with Yuhsaku. Hikaru tries to serve, but the ball drops out of sight into her shirt. Kyosuke stops time and tries to get the ball out — too slow! He gets caught with his hand in the proverbial basket. Madoka and Yuhsaku are steamed at Kyosuke, who ends up with a nice Madoka smash in the mouth. Kyosuke cheats using the watch against Hatta and Kurumi, who does not complain since kissing Hatta would be... BLEAH!

When others are playing, Kyosuke is trying to convince Ayukawa that he's not a pervert. She ignores him, buying a coffee and escaping to the ladies dressing room. He follows. Angry, she rebukes him, but accidentally spills her burning coffee on his shorts. The situation changes. She hands him a towel, asking if he's hurt. Meanwhile, the other girls are coming and they catch Kyosuke with his pants down in front of Madoka. She covers for him, but is still very cold.

The final: Yuhsaku-Madoka against Hikaru-Kyosuke. It is the final set, and Granddad is refereeing the game. Kyosuke does not want to kiss Hikaru, but he wants even less for Yuhsaku to kiss Madoka. When a final point ball slips out of his reach, he jumps and clicks the watch, but it is he who is frozen in time. The gang is worried: he looks dead. Ayukawa is alone with Kyosuke, apologizing to him. Granddad reminds her of the story of Sleeping Beauty. Inside the pavilion, Grandma does the same to a broken Hikaru who's been told that her darling is dead.

Meanwhile, Kyosuke is caught in a dream: he's attached to a giant clock face, as Madoka steps towards him and judges him for his deeds. She fires arrows into the clock; time spills. Hikaru appears and both girls turn away, ignoring Kyosuke's plea: "I did it for love! Why can't we all just stay the way we are?" In the real world, Madoka bends over to kiss Kyosuke, but lets go when Hikaru arrives to do the same. Kyosuke was already reviving, but Hikaru's kiss completes the job.

EPISODE 42

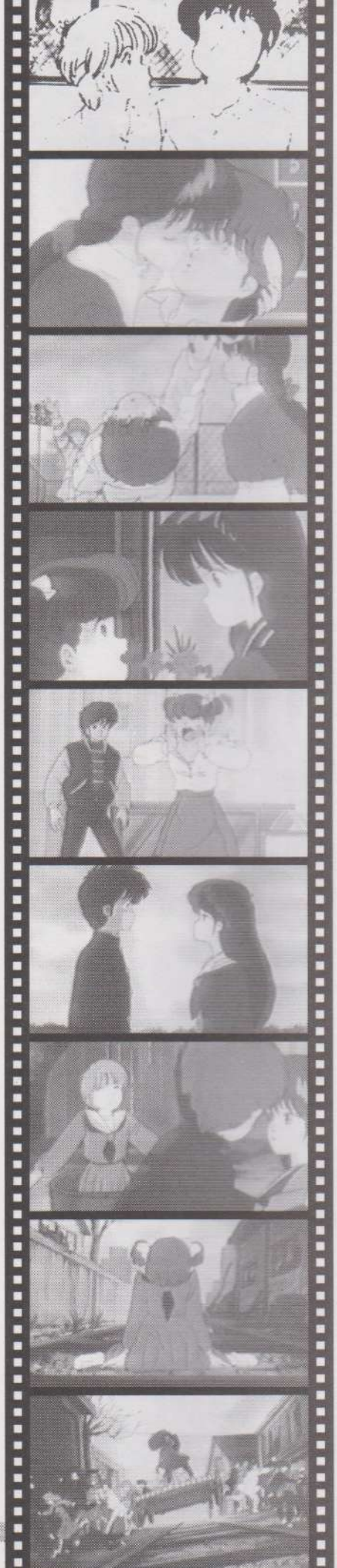
Popular Madoka! Kyosuke Finally Declares

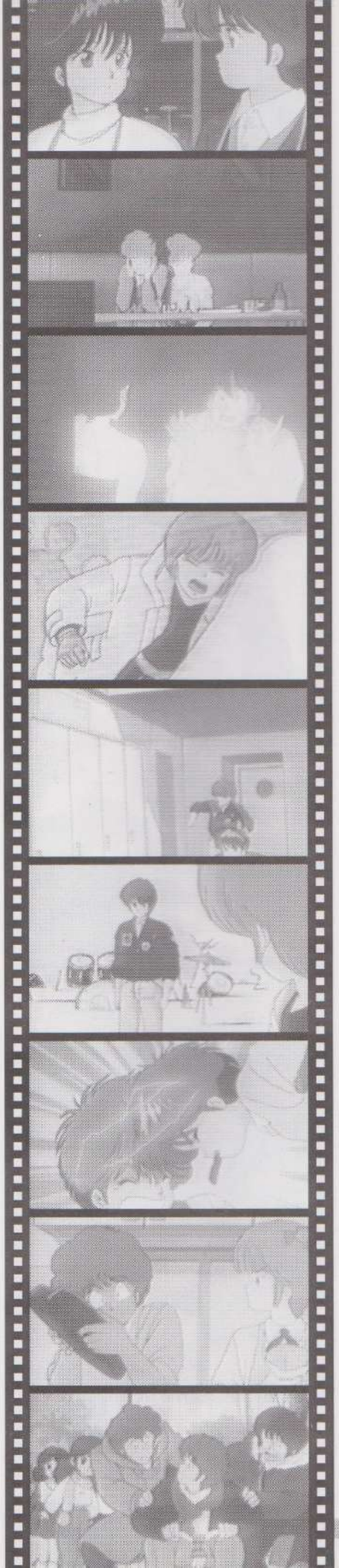
Madoka and Kyosuke are watching a stage version of "Gone with the Wind", with an all-female cast. This disturbs Kyosuke a bit, but he puts it off. After all, he is alone with Madoka. They walk to AbCb, when suddenly a young girl stops them in their tracks; she runs to Madoka gives her flowers, and runs off into the night! Inside the cafe, Master, Kyosuke and Madoka read the accompanying note, laughing it off while Madoka has a flashback and remembers how she got the girl out of the greedy claws of a gang of bikers that were about to abuse her. Madoka is now her idol.

At AbCb and at Kyosuke's home everyone is talking about Madoka's new friend. Eventually, Kyosuke envisions the worst: SHE moves in at Madoka's and manages to steal all HIS girlfriend's spare time. Next morning, Ayukawa receives other gifts while Kyosuke and Hikaru protest the fact that they don't see much of Madoka since the brat (Sumire) appeared. We realize that Sumire forced her way in Madoka's house by threatening her with a knife then turning it against herself; she will kill herself if Madoka does not allow her to stay.

Later, Madoka calls Hikaru and Kyosuke to help her get rid of Sumire. The latter lashes Kyosuke with snide remarks about love. Hikaru and Madoka elbow Kyosuke into talking some sense into her. He asks Sumire for a chat alone in Madoka's room. There, Sumire reveals that she lusted after him and is only using Madoka as bait. Kyosuke is taken by surprise, and as he tries to talk some sense into her, she rips her blouse, tears down the curtains, and yells for help. Kyosuke tackles her on the bed just as Hikaru and Madoka burst into the room, while the Hormonal Duo take a few snapshots of the mad rapist Kyosuke (what were they doing there? Humm).

Next day at school, Kyosuke is ostracized — even his sisters ignore him. He tries to explain himself by cornering Sumire, but she runs and hides behind a dour-faced Ayukawa. Kyosuke sulks at home, dejected. Hikaru still believes in her darling and concocts a plan so that the trio can be together again. Hikaru sets the play up: they will all meet at the old factory after class. Kyosuke is delayed by the counselor, but he escapes, starting a mad chase in which the whole school joins. Kyosuke gets to the factory and sees a resentful Madoka, while Hikaru is hidden in an empty oil drum. When they see Sumire arrive, they put Hikaru's plan in motion: Hikaru has written a short play where Madoka and Kyosuke declare their love to each other. Kyosuke says his lines properly, but Madoka... improvises. As the plan sets them out to kiss, Hikaru jumps out of the drum screaming "No!No! Don't you see it!?! They really love each other!" At this time, the school mob interrupts and forces Hikaru, Sumire, Madoka and Kyosuke to flee, Sumire leading the way. Madoka and Kyosuke end up on the rail car while Hikaru tackles Sumire. The couple set off on the rails in a scene reminiscent of the British movie "Melody" (Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young forever!)... problem is that the rail track is a loop which comes back full circle into the unruly mob.





EPISODE 43

Broken-Hearted Hikaru! Chase me to Winter Beach

One of the simplest but most artistic pieces animation wise!

Hikaru has her mind set on forming a band to compete in the Summer Music Festival. Taken aback, Madoka and Kyosuke are reluctant to participate. In fact, Kyosuke almost rebukes Hikaru who finally convinces them with her tearful-eyes sneak attack.

Next day, Madoka has arranged for the group to practice with her cousin's band. Shu-chan will even write a song for them. Everybody is having a good time until Yukari steps in and asks to speak to Shu-chan privately. They step outside, but Kazuya indiscreetly opens the door after them and with Kyosuke witness Yukari slapping Shu-chan. Later, Kyosuke walks Madoka home, as they chitchat about the band and tomorrow's practice. As he walks home, he happens upon Yukari who is calling from a phone booth, with tears in her eyes. They just say "Hi".

Kyosuke ends up at Yukari's apartment, where they spend the night together: Kyosuke keeping Yukari company, watching TV and munching the night away. Kyosuke wakes up half naked on her bed, totally confused about what happened (or not!). He hears the shower running: he walks to the bathroom in time for Yukari to step out only clad in a towel. Scared out of his wits, he runs home in complete panic. He comes in as the sun rises, with his sisters waiting for him! Joy!

As the bunch meets, he lies to Hikaru and everyone about his whereabouts last night: he was practicing the drums. Unfortunatley for him, Kurumi bribes Kazuya to find out what happened last night... but she's with Manami and Hikaru. What Kazuya has read from Kyosuke's mind comes out. Hikaru confronts Kyosuke, then runs away broken-hearted. Everyone is assembled in the studio, except for Hikaru. The blame is on Kyosuke, and he takes it on the chin from Yuhsaku. Madoka stops the bickering by backing Kyosuke. Everybody runs off to find Hikaru except Madoka and Kyosuke. Madoka asks why he did not say the truth: Yukari said to thank him and that Shu-chan and her are reconciled now. She slaps Kyosuke who cries out: "Why can it not be like before, the three of us?" Madoka runs after Hikaru when Kazuya comes in, distressed. Kyosuke sits back on the drum set, while Kazuya wonders what he's doing. Trying to drum his feelings out, he reaches for Hikaru, then teleports to her — drum kit and all — just as Madoka also arrives. Hikaru is feeling better, and giving Kyosuke another chance, the trio runs together along the beach.

EPISODE 44

Taste of Love? Kyosuke's Valentine from Hell!

Valentine's Day, where girls give chocolate (not garbage) to the one they love. Kyosuke is daydreaming about his "date" with Madoka; he flashes back to yesterday when Madoka made him promise to help at AbCb and lent him her scarf. In these thoughts, he rejoices, smelling with ecstasy his hot chocolate. Around him is chaos as Takashi tries to drag Kazuya to the dentist, but the brat, after stealing some chocolate from the twins' cooking, sets his fiendish plan in motion. He mind swaps with oblivious Kyosuke and then runs out of the house, leaving his cousin to deal with his cavity.

Meanwhile, Hikaru is cooking a humongous chocolate with Yuhsaku, who fantasizes about the situation until he reads the inscription on the chocolate: "To my darling!". His igloo of love, den of paradise... collapses. Kazuya, being a kid, tricks the girls at the playground to give him — as Kyosuke — some chocolate until the Dumb Duo nab him for some nefarious scheme (after scolding him about the age of his targets): they will sneak into the school, raid and pillage the boys' lockers and seize the love chocolate they will never receive! Kazuya finds this very entertaining and potentially stomach filling.

At AbCb, Madoka is finishing preparations on a selection of fine chocolate. Master tries to get one, but she stops him. He teases her, mentioning that they must be for someone REALLY special like... "customers" she finishes. At the dentist,

Kyosuke is suffering while his dad is flirting with an old flame... the sexy dentist (don't let them fool you!). Kyosuke escapes, trying to find his cousin and stop him from abusing his body. On the street, the trio meets with Hikaru and Yuhsaku. Hikaru tries to leap in her darling's arms but is stopped. She then notices chocolate stains around his mouth. Distressed, she asks who dared give him chocolate as Kazuya's jacket spews a multitude of chocolate bars. Wisely, the Dumb Duo escapes while Hulk Yuhsaku beats the tar out of Kazuya in Kyosuke's body!

Kyosuke in Kazuya's body sits at AbCb, wondering what mischief Kazuya is performing. He gets a chocolate from Ayukawa and Master comments that he's very lucky as they are hard to come by. Madoka scolds Master while Kyosuke is stunned. Hikaru bursts in the cafe, crying, and leaping into Madoka's arms, toppling a pile of dirty dishes on the three of them. At Madoka's house. Hikaru is cleaning Kazuya's clothes while Madoka is in the shower. Kyosuke fantasizes about slipping in the shower with her (size means nothing to hormones!) Hikaru interrupts his dream and asks for his underpants; she notices a little something which surprises her to no end. Madoka steps out of the bathroom, asking what is happening. Hikaru points to the subject matter, further embarrassing Kyosuke: "They've seen mine!?!"

The scene finally settles as Hikaru tells of her problem with Kyosuke, and Madoka chimes in about him breaking his promises. Kyosuke in Kazuya's body tries to defend himself, but Madoka promises to teach him a lesson. Finally, Kazuya in Kyosuke's body, beaten up and dirty, arrives at Madoka's looking for his young cousin. Hikaru runs to him and apologizes for her being so hard on him, but Madoka is unforgiving about being stood up and the fact that her scarf is wrecked. Kazuya asks where his chocolate is. Madoka is about to give him his due, but Hikaru steps in and helicopters Kazuya/Kyosuke. At this time, the boys swap again.

Late that evening, Kyosuke helps Madoka in cleaning up and closing AbCb. She gives him a cup of hot chocolate. "Don't think anything about it. That's all we have left" she says. Master who had left comes back for his hat and smells the aroma. He comments on the hot chocolate and Madoka sends him home. Kyosuke looks at her and they both smile.

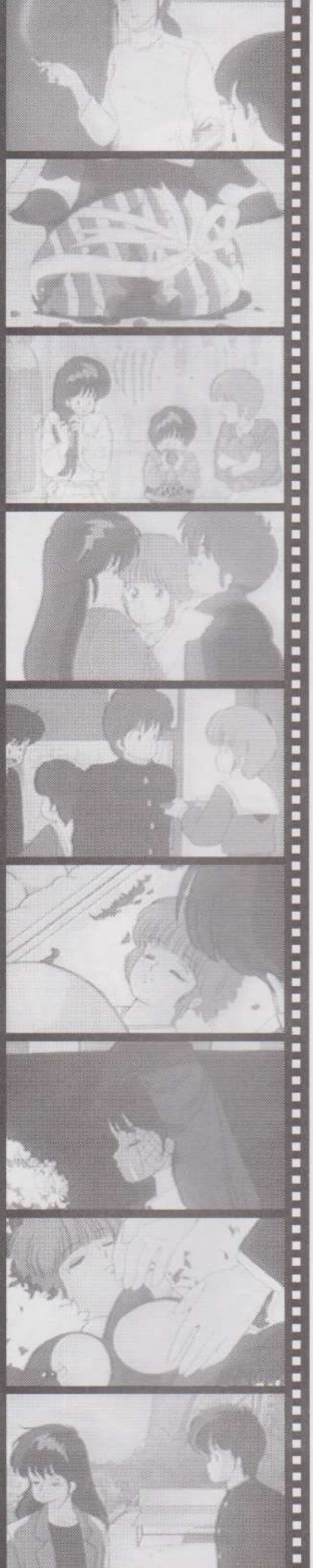
EPISODE 45

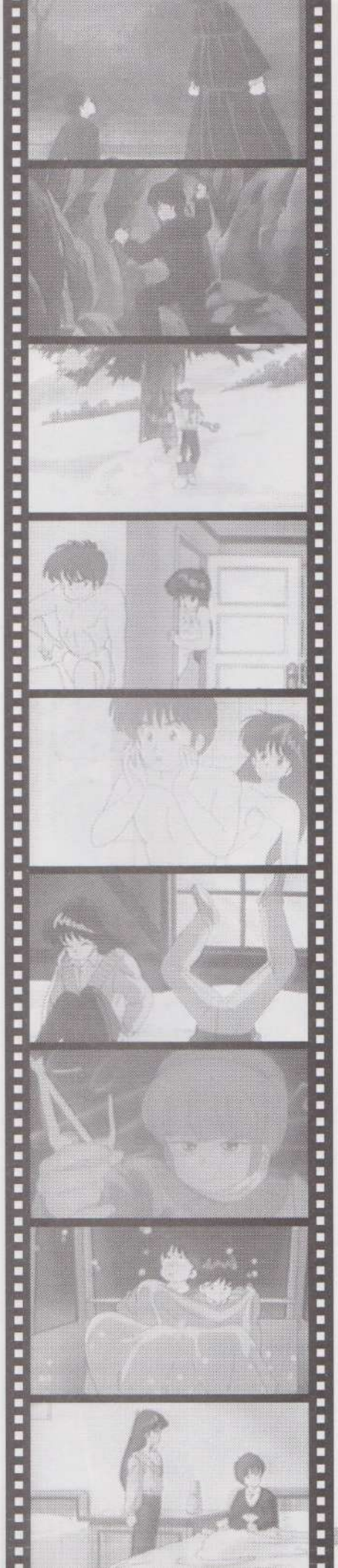
Good-bye Hikaru-chan! And There Was None

Hikaru and Kyosuke are swapping a love diary (great idea Hikaru!). Komatsu comments "Hot as usual", but Hikaru stops him and says that their relationship is a pure one. Madoka comes in, witnesses the scene and then comments. "Hot as usual?", turning her eyes away from Kyosuke who tries to hide the diary, to no avail. He sits on the school's rooftop, reading Hikaru's childish notes. He tries to whip up an interested, polite response, trying not to puke from all this sweetness (We're mean... sometimes! Ok, We're evil).

At AbCb, Madoka invites both Kyosuke and Hikaru to try the new AbCb menu at her place. Hikaru jumps for joy and offers in return to let Madoka read their diary of love. Ooops! Kyosuke does not rejoice. As they leave, Hikaru sneezes; she has a cold, but she'll be more than fine tomorrow. Kyosuke is at home with the diary, wishing out loud Hikaru would be too sick to come tomorrow so he can be alone with Madoka and not have to show the diary. Kurumi overhears him and plots to tech her brother a lesson. Let the nightmare begin.

At school the next day, everyone is mourning: Komatsu asks Kyosuke if he's ready for today's funeral. "Huh!?!". Kyosuke learns that Hikaru is dead, the "cold cut her blossoming youthful life to nothingness" (Blaaah!). Everyone gathers at church, where a national funeral is held for Hikaru. Kyosuke cannot believe his eyes. As he pays his last respects, he witnesses Ayukawa crying a single tear, while Yuhsaku prays, ravaged by the event. Kyosuke is asked to eulogize Hikaru, but he collapses and so does the world around him: Hatta and Komatsu renounce their childlike ways and dedicate themselves to their studies; Ayukawa leaves for North America, ending their friendship because it only mattered when Hikaru was around; Master closes and





destroys AbCb since everybody is leaving... and there's more! Takashi renounces photography, while the twins enter a Buddhist nunnery; at the same time, Yuhsaku goes off on a pilgrimage.

Kyosuke reads the last entry from the diary at "Hikaru's tomb", then tries to use his power to revive her. Finally, when all his efforts are naught, Death (clad like Salieri in Amadeus) offers him a deal (not the peanut thing): dig through this mountain within six days and you will find her again. He succeeds and finally wakes up, discovering his sisters and grandfather played a dirty trick on him by using their powers.

Next day, Kyosuke and Madoka overhear Hikaru sending off her childhood... which sounds dreadfully like a suicide eulogy! Madoka and Kyosuke come onto the scene and see Hikaru and Yuhsaku sending off her toys into the ocean as she says farewell. Hikaru and Kyosuke are reunited as he tells her he likes her for her childish appeal, while Madoka looks upon the embraced couple with displeasure. Of course, Yuhsaku has to take a swim...

EPISODE 46

One Silver Night!
Gondola for two.

Ah! Another of Komatsu's great ideas. To celebrate their upcoming graduation, the whole gang escapes to a ski resort. Of course, Kyosuke knows nothing about skiing. Yuhsaku does. So well so that he manages to not kill himself when he crashes. On topof that, he hears God's voice (Kazuya).

It's early evening after dinner. Kyosuke takes Kazuya to the room so the latter can go to bed. Dark Kazuya has evil plans. Knowing Yuhsaku wishes to be alone with Hikaru, he uses his power to switch the hotel room numbers on the doors so that Yuhsaku can be alone with Hikaru. He escapes as Kyosuke enters in the wrong (right) room. He starts disrobing to take a bath and hears the shower running — A... A... Ayukawa! Hormones do their thing! Suddenly a scream splits Kyosuke's dream: Hikaru has entered the right (wrong) room and surprised Kazuya naked (Don't ask.): he had forgotten to reswitch the room numbers.

Hikaru sees her mistake and goes to the "girls" room. Meanwhile, Ayukawa stumbles on Kyosuke, and she starts telling off Kyosuke but they are interrupted by the arrival of Hikaru. Both hide in the bathroom and are saved by some cat-like reflexes and the arrival of the twins/twits couples. Let's go to the disco! Blind, Hikaru agrees, wondering where Darling is. She almost pieces "cat and clothes" together and returns to the room. Kyosuke and Madoka escape by the window. Hikaru, disappointed, looks out into the starry sky when Yuhsaku comes upon her. Kazuya witnesses the scene and nudges him on in a godly manner. Unable to declare his love, he takes a beautiful angel dive, and cools off in the snow. Hikaru leaves for the disco.

In the meantime, Madoka and Kyosuke are watching a torchlight descent from the gondola lift. Kyosuke tries to get close to Madoka, but is none too gently reminded that he's too close. Suddenly, the gondola stops: the operator realizes he fell asleep and closed up in a rush, leaving the couple marooned! Madoka is slightly nervous, while Kyosuke is annoyingly debonair. He uses his power to move the gondola, succeeding in short-circuiting the electrical system and breaking a window. Enter the cold winter night.

Kyosuke finds the emergency blanket, and hands it to Ayukawa. He apologizes for getting her in this mess. She decides to share the blanket with him when he sneezes. Kyosuke tries to wake Kazuya, using his power. Kazuya is fast asleep and now Kyosuke cannot even teleport Ayukawa out.

The hours pass: the party goes on at the disco, with Hikaru being initiated into the ways of medicinal beverages. Ayukawa falls asleep, to Kyosuke's despair. He tries again to call on Kazuya as he slips into unconsciousness.

Ayukawa wakes up in a bed, the sun shining upon her. She sees Kyosuke asleep in another bed (Too bad!). She remembers the night, as Kazuya enters upon the scene in his own brattish way. Kyosuke wakes up as Kazuya leaves. The couple meets again, to start anew once more. Good morning.

EPISODE 47

Sad Farewell.
Search for Madoka's First Love

Kyosuke dreams of the day he caught Madoka's hat. Ayukawa finds him sleeping under a tree, and decides to wake him by tickling his nose with a leaf. He awakens, sneezing. She picks on his laziness, to which he replies "That's what a nap is!" She giggles, and mentions that this scene is very much "déjà vu"! "Someone special said the same thing six years ago... and we were to meet here, right now." Kyosuke, after guessing about gets the right answer: your first love. The joy of discovery turns to sour deception. Later, he asks Hikaru about this tree in the park meeting. She answers that's where Madoka had her "first kiss". Agony!

Grandpa is at home, playing with the twins while dad is a nervous wreck. Kyosuke just walks by to his room, lost in thoughts. Grandpa comes to see him and overhears Kyosuke mumbling about "six years ago". Well, grandpa is very generous. Explosion and time travel if you please.

Kyosuke finds himself in an odd but familiar place. He sees Ayukawa running into the park to the great large tree where she meets another man. They kiss. Kyosuke, broken, runs off in a fit of madness. Suddenly, he crashes with a child on a bike who starts crying: a young girl springs on the scene calling the child "Yuhsaku!" Oh no! Super-Deformed Hikaru.. and Yuhsaku. To calm them, he buys ice cream. There, he realizes he time traveled to exactly six years ago... and he does not know how to go home. He then asks himself: "Who was that girl kissing under the tree?"

Kyosuke returns to the tree and falls asleep. He is awakened by tickling to his nose. The scene repeats itself, but, this time, it's a young "boy". Kyosuke tries to get rid of the brat, but ends up pitying the kid. "This tree is my (only) friend". The "boy" plays around with a soccer ball until a young soccer player tells the kid to "shove off". Meanwhile Madoka is packing her things, her father is ill and she must go to America.

In the "past", the soccer team bullies Kyosuke and the "boy". Kyosuke does not use his power until a soccer ball sends the boy into a deadly fall. Kyosuke has no choice: he uses his power to save the boy, softening their fall. As he picks the unconscious boy up, he realizes he has breasts; the "boy" is a girl. She steps away, calling him a pervert, but he convinces her that she's too young; anyway she should dress like a girl. The girl replies "How is a girl suppose to dress?". Kyosuke goes on and describes Madoka. The young girl comments "No wonder you were running after my sister!" Kyosuke finally gets it: this young brat is Madoka! They depart and Kyosuke sulks away, trying either to find how to get out or live here?

In 1988, Madoka announces that she has to leave to the Takashi. She is looking for Kyosuke. Hikaru also wonders where Darling is. Madoka leaves for their special place: the stairs in the park. Grandpa appears and asks "Do you really want to be with him?"

In 1982, Hikaru finds Kyosuke, "The soccer gang has captured my friend Ayukawa". Kyosuke realizes this is a trap, but he goes to rescue Madoka. She's dressed like a girl, with a beautiful hat, and she's paying for it. With his power, he escapes the trap and teleports both he and Madoka. She has lost her hat. The gang is united (Yuhsaku, Hikaru, Madoka and Kyosuke) as they spend the day together. Kyosuke offers to purchase a hat to replace the one Madoka lost. She points to THE hat. The day ends, as Madoka accompanies Kyosuke back to the tree. He leans and closes his eyes, knowing he has changed the past. Suddenly, he feels gentle lips upon his own. Young Madoka has kissed him. He blinks as she runs away. She turns back and says that they must meet again. "Here, in six years" he replies. Suddenly, the park is filled with light: enter 1988 Madoka (a good vintage).

EPISODE 48

Love Caught.
Da Capo! (The Finale)

Kyosuke and Madoka meet in 1982. She wonders what happened, as she explains that she was just with his

granddad. They leave for the park's swings. In 1988, Hikaru is worried. Yuhsaku tells her that they should go home. She replies that they're no longer kids, as she tries to hit him like she used to — he dodges. Kazuya insinuates that maybe Kyosuke might have taken the plunge since Madoka is leaving, and that they ran away. Kurumi and Manami quash this thought until the twits come running, echoing Kazuya's thoughts.

In 1982, Kyosuke explains the situation to Madoka, how his family are ESPers, and that he's sorry he could not say so before. She laughs briefly, and Kyosuke thinks it is no laughing matter! She stops swinging and says that it is funny that the man she loves is an ESPer. In the future she had to leave, but now she can stay. Kyosuke, stunned, hugs her, crying. Relived, his appetite catches up and he runs off to get them something to eat. He runs down the park's stairs, stumbles, falls.. and time slips in a parallel universe.

Kyosuke quickly realizes that he does not exist in this universe and everything else is wrong: Yuhsaku and Hikaru are dating, Hatta and Komatsu are cops, his sisters don't know him, and Ayukawa is the ultimate punk. He is caught with her in a gang fight. Meanwhile in 1982, Madoka meets her younger self. They chat and young Madoka asks if old Madoka is Kyosuke's girlfriend. Old Madoka asks why: "You look like you're his type! Anyway, he's my hero. I love him and I will marry him one day." Old Madoka is stunned and smiles, wishing her luck.

In the parallel universe, Kyosuke is separated from Madoka and bound. Gang members are about to rape Madoka. Further, Kyosuke remembers granddad's words about if two time versions of the same person touch: one is banished forever. At the same time, Madoka screams, awakening Kyosuke. He shouts her name, freeing himself and saving older Madoka from shaking hands with her younger self. He also saves the alternate Madoka from her captors. They run off on a motor bike. She says that he made a difference in her life, stunning Kyosuke as he falls from the bike and time slips again.

Kyosuke is back in 1982 and runs to Madoka, fearing the worse. Suddenly, they see a miniature Kyosuke spying on them: it's Kazuya. Grandpa has sent him to get them back. Yet, he offers them to take them back whenever they want.

Kyosuke is sleeping under the tree. Madoka arrives and they re-enact the scene of early afternoon:

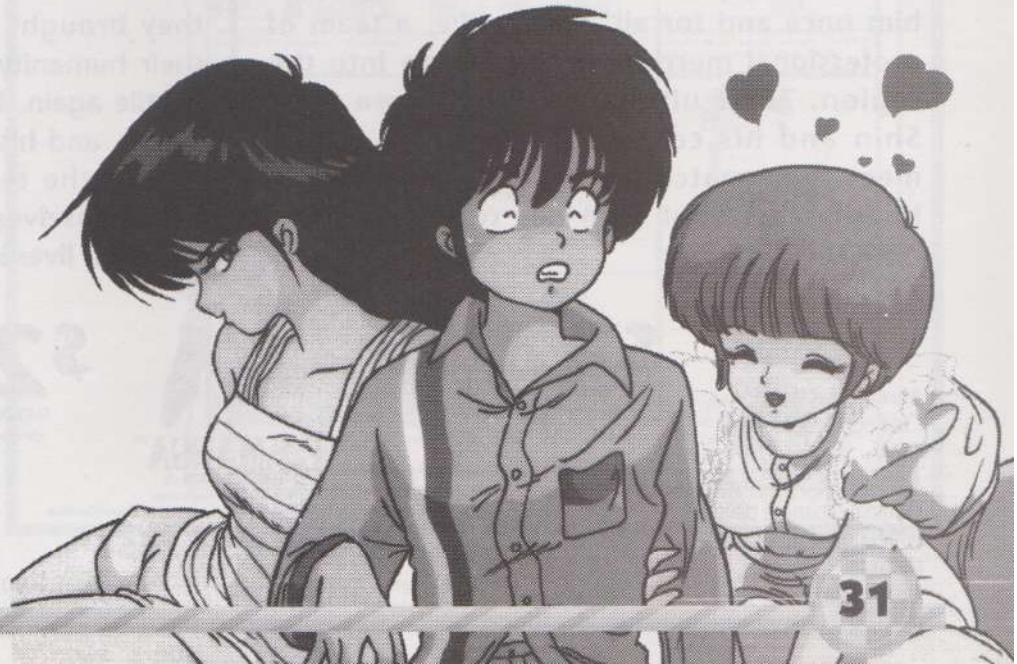
"What are you doing sleeping there? You could catch a cold.", she says.

"I am simply taking an afternoon nap."

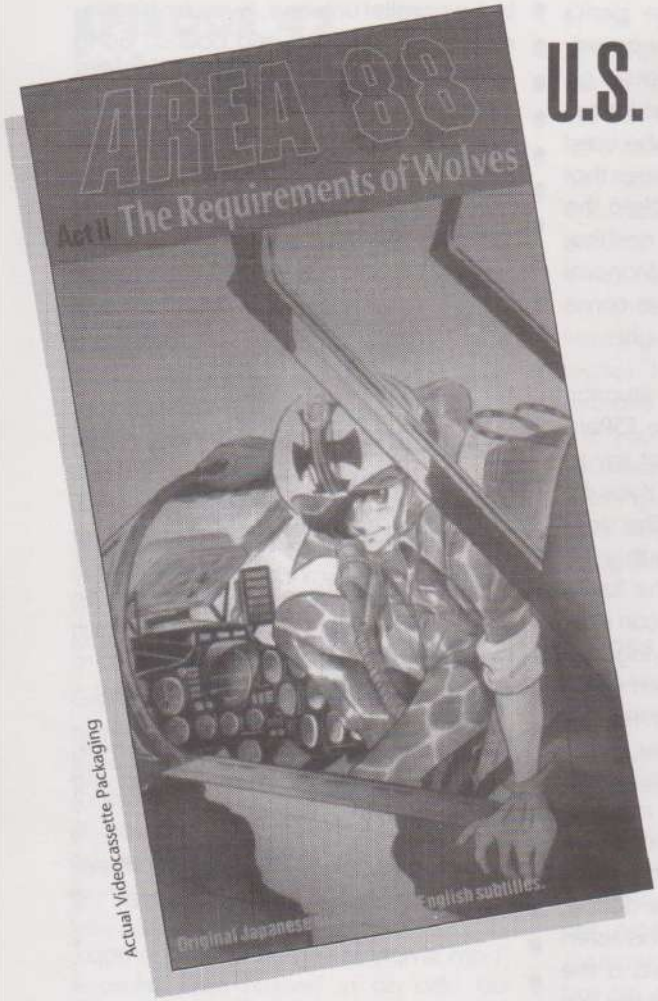
"Strange, someone said the same six years ago. Someone very dear to me."

"Yes, and since that day, he has remembered and kept his promise. You mean very much to me".

Ayukawa turns around, surprised to see him so close. They close their eyes: their second "First Kiss".

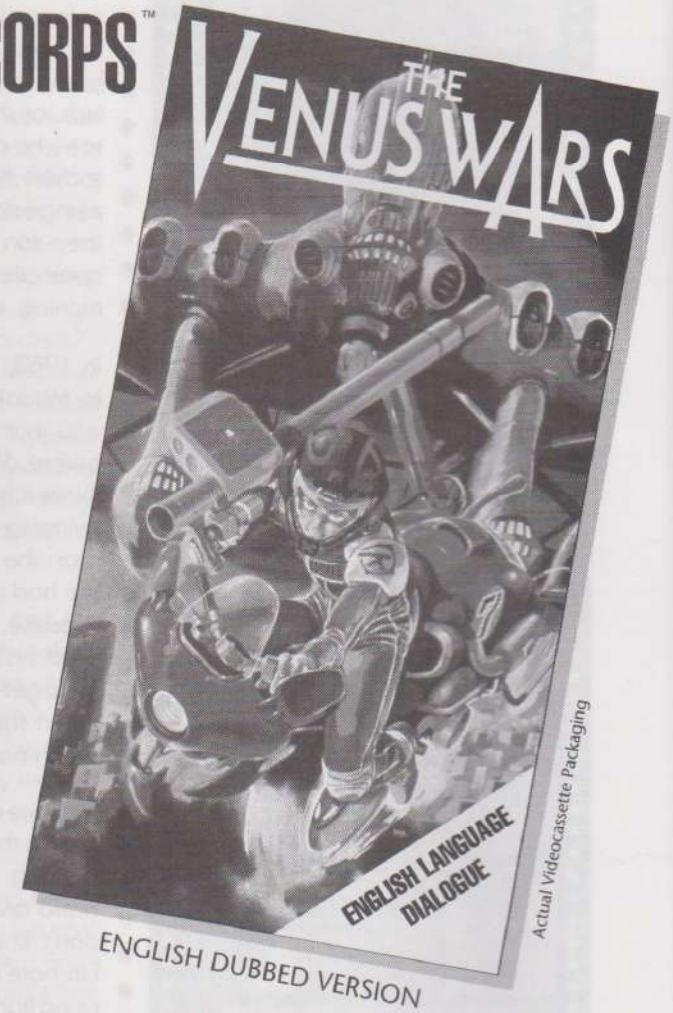


EXPLOSIVE COMBAT OVER DESERT WASTELANDS AND FROZEN TUNDRA



Actual Videocassette Packaging

U.S. MANGA CORPS™ HAS IT ALL!



Actual Videocassette Packaging

ENGLISH DUBBED VERSION

Part Two of the popular three-part series, which is now the subject of a video game for Nintendo, U.N. Squadron. When Shin Kazama, ace pilot at air base Area 88, survives being shot down in what was to be his final air battle, his arch rival hires a professional killer to eliminate him once and for all. Meanwhile, a team of professional mercenaries is moving into the region. Their ultimate target—Area 88! Shin and his comrades are about to meet their match in the skies over the Middle East...but Shin has to watch his back this time too!

From *Yoshikazu Yasuhiko*, one of Japan's foremost creators of popular animation and comics. Following the collision of an ice asteroid, massive terraforming has made the planet Venus capable of supporting life. People from Earth have colonized the formerly hostile world and thrived for four generations. But they brought with them the darkest side of their humanity and Venus is about to become hostile again. Hiro Seno, a hotshot motorcycle jockey, and his fellow countrymen are plunged into the tense drama of unrest and find themselves on the front lines fighting for their lives in *Yasuhiko's* battlefields!

$34.95
suggested retail price
(prices may vary in Canada)

Area 88, Act II
Catalog #: USM 1048
Color. Stereo. 57 minutes.
Animated action adventure.
Original Japanese dialogue
with English subtitles.
Unrated. Suitable
for most audiences.
Parental discretion advised.

$29.95
suggested retail price
(prices may vary in Canada)

The Venus Wars (dubbed)
Catalog #: USM 1071
Color. Stereo. 104 minutes.
Animated action adventure.
English language dialogue
(dubbed version). Unrated.
Suitable for most audiences.
Parental discretion advised.

ALSO AVAILABLE: The Venus Wars (English subtitles) Catalog #: USM 1046
$39.95 suggested retail price (prices may vary in Canada)

U.S.MANGA™ CORPS

©1993 Central Park Media Corp.
Company spokes mecha M.D. Geist appears courtesy of Nippon Columbia.

1-800-833-7456

250 West 57th Street, Suite 317, New York, NY 10107
Phone: 212-977-7456 Fax: 212-977-8709

OTAKU NO RESULTS

In PA #23, we announced a contest to determine what is the ultimate otaku. Participants had to show/tell it by a drawing or a small text. Even if there were not many entries to the contest, we were amazed by the imagination of their creators. We were not looking for the quality of the drawings or of the texts but for an original and funny concept describing the ultimate otaku. All the entries we good and would have deserved to win but we had to chose only three winners. Here are the lucky one who will receive a copy of OTAKU NO VIDEO (offered by AnimEigo):

1) Ronald Spillman, Columbus Oh

2) Federico Pohl, Houston Tx

3) Malcolm Earle, Nepean Ont. (the only text entry)

1st Place

2nd Place

THE OLD AND THE NEW

BIG ROBOT STUFF

Yeah, yeah, we know. It's old stuff, badly animated, the stories are stupid, and the robots ridiculous. But, sincerely, we do not think that those series are intended for a young, unaware audience. It seems to have been targeted toward the older (25 and up) viewers who are nostalgic about the stuff they saw when they were younger. Here are six of those old anime (five of them are released by Peter Pan Industries):

GRANDIZER: The best of the five PPI's tapes probably because we saw it in French when we were kids. The animation is better than the other four and the robot is less ridiculous. In French it was known as GOLDORAK and established records as the most watched TV program both in France and Québec. Contains the first two episodes: "Robot Back to Action" & "Beware The Red Moon". ***

PPI/Parade, Cat. # 6613, subbed, 46 min.

SPACEKETEERS: This one is different because there is no real giant robot. It is the people who become giant and fight! (like in ULTRAMAN). It seems that the story was inspired by an ancient legend. Both story and characters were done by Leiji Matsumoto (YAMATO, CAPTAIN HARLOCK, etc). The princess is really cute (as Matsumoto female characters often are). Contains: "Aurora Accepts The Challenge" & "The Invicible Warrior". **

PPI/Parade, Cat. # 6611, subbed, 46 min.

STAR VENGER: This one is original for its robot, which can separate in three vehicles. All parts can recombine in different positions to form three types of robots: aerial, subterranean and aquatic. This anime is not fantastic but it is somewhat interesting. Viz is publishing a sequel manga under the title VENGER ROBO. Contains: "Who'll Fly Poseidon" & "Dragon Formation... Switch On". **

PPI/Parade, Cat. # 6612, subbed, 46 min.

GAIKING: The worst of the five in all aspects. The robot looks really stupid. Contains: "Aries Joins The Team" & "Right Down The Middle". (-)

PPI/Parade, Cat. # 6614, subbed, 46 min.

DANGUARD ACE: Quite average. The interest lies in the character designs by Matsumoto, hence the likeness with SPACE CRUISER YAMATO characters. Contains: "Enter Captain Mask" & "Down From Mach 2". *

PPI/Parade, Cat. # 6610, subbed, 46 min.

ASTROBOY: 30th Anniversary Collector's Series Vol. I: No need to present this one. This tape is composed of the best episodes of the TV series and, as such, is a very interesting buy for a nostalgic viewer. Other than that, we don't think anybody will have any real interest (unless you are an animation historian). It nice to see how things looked in the old days. Contains: ep. #55 "Vampire Vale" & ep. #99 "Phoenix Bird". ***

RIGHT STUFF, Cat. # RS 3001, B&W, Dubbed. $14.95

(-)	Waste of money
*	Poor
**	Fair
***	Good
****	Excellent
*****	Outstanding!

EXPLORER WOMAN RAY

Well, there is not a lot to say about this one. It is a standard, late '80's OVA fare, with just enough quality in its animation to make it to the OVA rank. The story is also quite ordinary and goes as follows: two teenage girls steal an antique mirror and are pursued by the henchmen of the bad guy. They escape and run into the good gal. Many chase scenes later, the temple constructed by a forgotten civilization, and where the mirror was put in use, is destroyed. End of part one. For part two, repeat all this without the mirror. Is there no end? This is how interesting this story is. We were just barely able to stay awake watching this. Frankly, if you want an "Indiana Jones" style anime, we can only recommend CRYSTAL TRIANGLE, which is much better in all aspects. A video to purchase only if you want to have the "Complete USMC Collection". (Sorry, MO but I liked this one — CJP). **

USMC, Cat.# USM 1026, subbed, 60 min., $34.95

THE ULTIMATE TEACHER

This video is a lesson to the total otaku who will buy just about anything with the label Japanese animation. Anime are not perfect and ULTIMATE TEACHER is proof of this. What a waste of tape, time, resources and talent! We can't understand how a company like Movic could be involved in such crap. In brief, it is a short story. Everything revolves around the kind of panties the main female character is wearing. Contrary to what a lot of people believe, the ultimate teacher is not the cute girl on the cover illustration; it is the ridiculous moron behind her. He was genetically altered with the genes of a roach, so he is almost invincible and he walks along the walls. He is hired as a teacher in the worst high school of Japan and his greatest desire is to clean it up from the thugs who infest it. Problem: the leader of all the school gangs is a pretty girl with the strength of ten men. Her only weakness? She need to wear a pair of "Lucky Kiddy" briefs to keep her strength. Her secret is discovered and she is in trouble but receives help from an old enemy of the roach man. Some length, stupid story (PROJECT A-KO style but not funny). Not recommended at all. Waste of money. (-)

USMC, Cat. # USM 1030, subbed, 60 min., $34.95

AREA 88 ACT I: BLUE SKY OF BETRAYAL

One of Kaoru Shintani's (CLEOPATRA DC, DESERT RISE) best works, AREA 88 recounts the adventures of Shin kazama, a young Japanese mercenary pilot fighting to keep himself alive in the desert hell he was traitorously trapped in. At the beginning of the story, Shin is a young up and coming Yamato Airline student pilot in love with Ryoko, the daughter of the airline's president. Shin seems to be heading for a brilliant future. But, unluckily for him, his best friend is jealous of him, and he signs Shin up for a little tour of duty in Asran, a small North-East African country plunged in war. The only way to get out of there is to accumulate $1.5 million to buy back his contract (each kill gives him around $20,000), spend two years in this hell-hole with a very small life expectancy, or to die in the desert. His love for Ryoko keeps him alive. Hell becomes his world and he thrives in it...

The first volume is quite interesting and made some remember a few years back, when anime was a brand new discovery (it was the third anime I saw — CJP). The art and animation are very nice. The character designs are simple but effective, the music and atmosphere are gripping and the planes... It is said that Kaoru Shintani is a total plane otaku and, frankly, it shows. They are drawn very faithfully, to the point that someone who knows them well will recognize each different model. The story is also very good though sometimes quite fr .etched. But, hey!, that's anime! Using a new subtitling style (letters in white with a black shadow): very effective. ****

USMC, Cat. # USM 1047, subbed, 50 min. $34.95

GOLGO 13: THE PROFESSIONAL

Many Japanese animations are conversions from manga and this one is no exception. Taken from a 70's manga by Takeo Saito titled GOLGO 13, it recounts the adventures of Duke Togo, a cold-hearted professional killer who sells his services to the highest bidder. The animation begins with Duke's fulfillment of a contract, and that's where his problems start. The father of the victim is quite mad at him for killing his only son and since he is one of the most powerful men on the planet, Duke is in big trouble. By the movie's end, he is able to fulfill two more contracts, see many of his friends killed in gruesome fashion, have sex with a multitude of female companions, thwart a zillion attempts on his life and take on the major bad guy.

The problem with THE PROFESSIONAL? The story is just totally unbelievable and, in fact, qualifies in the FIST OF THE NORTH STAR category as far as exageration is concerned. It is sufficient that Duke makes Crying Freeman look like a wimp but the collection of weirdos sent after him to make his life miserable is just too much. And we must say that the way he treats women is not charming at all. Nevertheless, the James Bond-like story (for the mood only, since it is so badly written), the (particularly) beautiful animation, and the excellent dubbing make THE PROFESSIONAL a good buy. ***

Streamline Pictures, Cat. #90703, dubbed, 94 min.

AD POLICE VOL. 1

Although the manga and the animation of AD POLICE were made after BUBBLEGUM CRISIS, they actually recount events that are taking place two years before the appearence of the Knight Sabers on the streets of Mega-Tokyo. In this time the Boomers that plague the city are not as bad as in BGC but are beginning to be enough of a problem to justify the creation of special police force to deal with these crimes: the ADvance Police. In the first File, one of the best inspectors of AD Police remembers one of his first cases, when he had to kill a psychotic sexaroid boomer (the same type as Sylvie and Andy in BCG #5 "Moonlight Rambler"). The name of that officer is Leon McNicols! By the end of the first file, some events seem to indicate that the boomer did not die and was actually rebuilt, with ancient memories and all. Bad luck for Leon, the last thing it remembers is his face!

A lot of people will be running to go buy this animation when they read that it is part of BUBBLEGUM CRISIS universe, and will feel slightly cheated when they see it. First of all, the character of Leon is not as strong as in BGC (his friend Gina, a ADP veteran, is much more interesting), the music is rather uninteresting (where it was one of BGC's strong points) and the story is quite predictable. The animation is nicely done, though. If you are a big fan of BGC and want to have everything on it, then this tape is for you. The same applies if you are a BLADE RUNNER fan, since this anime series is quite reminiscent of Ridley Scott's movie. ***

AnimEigo, Cat. #AT093-005, subtitled, 40 min., $34.95

THE HEROIC LEGEND OF ARISLAN PART I

Personally, I can't believe that someone was able to get the translation rights for this animation that fast. Usually, we rarely got to see the good stuff translated before three or four years. Luckily for us, it was not the case for ARISLAN. I must say that I was VERY impressed by that. This story is a delight for those who like history (like me), as a lot of the characters and locations have names inspired by history (in this case mostly ancient Persia). It give hints on each character's personality and destiny (Arslan means "lion" in Persian). The character designs are beautiful, the style being the usual one in all Haruki Kadokawa's stuff (such as FIVE STAR STORIES and WEATHERING CONTINENT). This style seems heavily influenced by shojo manga (girl's comics). Some may be annoyed by the fact that most of the male characters have quite a feminine appearance. The music is beautiful and haunting (once again, it is a trait of Kadokawa's animations) and is definitively worth buying (if you own a CD player). The animation is flawless and very fluid, with a minimum of repetition. The subtitling job done by USMC is, as usual, a masterpiece. Using a letterbox format positioned in the high part of the screen leaves a large black band at the bottom and makes the reading of the subtitling extremely easy. You are not losing any part of the picture, since the subtitling does not cover it. Thanks to USMC for such a nice jewel. *****

USMC, Cat. # USM 1081, subbed, 59 min., $29.95

RG VEDA VOL. I

The animated version of a popular shojo manga, RG VEDA represents an even bigger (and bolder) step than HEROIC LEGEND OF ARISLAN. First, we are not sure that the style of the characters design will please everybody, especially viewers who are not acquainted with such a style. By that we mean the immense and dewy eyes (especially the girls), the extraordinarily shiny hair, and the feminine look given to the men (even if they have large enough shoulder to make half of the defense line of the Dallas Cowboys!). Done by Studio Clamp, both the comic and the animation carry this style, which is starting to be very popular in Japan, even with male viewers/readers. This could be explained by the fact that many male fans are starting to get tired of the shonen (boys) style and want something more esthetically artistic that will reflect their evolving maturity. But even then, I wonder if the North American market is ready for such a change, as many of studio Clamp's works are found morally unacceptable to the North American public just starting to get acquainted with anime and manga. Luckily for USMC, RG VEDA is not one of those "controversial" works and will probably help to introduce the shojo style to North American fandom. It will prepare the way for Clamp's bolder works (like TOKYO BABYLON, EARTHIAN, etc) which are truly interesting. Volume One of RG VEDA is an introduction to the saga and presents each of the characters, so that the audience will not be wondering what is going on when they see subsequent episodes. The story is a little more complicated than ARISLAN but the animation has the same artistic and exotic qualities. ****

USMC, Cat. # USM 1079, subbed, 45 min., $29.95

IRRESPONSIBLE CAPTAIN TAYLOR

by Martin Ouellette & C. J. Pelletier

STORY

Epidode 1: The Mysterious Irresponsible Man.

A young man wearing an old baggy trenchcoat walks in the street. His eyes are sad and dreamy, yet a strange, optimistic half-smile is etched on his face. His name is Justy Ueki Taylor, an irresponsible, idealistic young man looking for a purpose in life! As he passes in front of a United Planets Space Force recruitment video screen, it suddenly hits him: why not be a soldier!

The Rarlgon Empire threatens to wage war on Earth as its late Emperor, Goza 15th, has been assassinated and UPSF officals are suspected. On Earth, the military are debating on how to answer to the accusation. Should they wait for the Empire to make the first move, as the wise admiral Mifune favors, or take advantage of its weakness and attack, as the ambitious and reckless Admiral Fuji is proposing? Meanwhile, the counsellors of the young Empress Azaling are trying to persuade her to declare war on the cowards of the UPSF.

Taylor goes to the nearest recruitment office. The petty officer in charge cannot believe his ears when Taylor declares that he is enlisting because he "wants a comfortable life"! Asked to explain himself, Taylor enumerates some advantages of the military (free food & education, easy job). This optimistic view has some effect on the officier, who nevertheless points out that one could get killed in war and that the duty of a soldier is to sacrifice himself for his country. Taylor answer that if he was accepted in the Space Force and unexpectedly accomplished some great achievements (say becoming Fleet Admiral), his "Excellency the Petty Officer" will achieve glory for discovering such a talent. He will be rewarded and have stardom, groupies, and TV interviews...

At the same moment, two discussions about the fate of Earth are being conducted. In the UPSF headquarters, Admirals Mifune and Fuji are clashing as the latter calls the other a coward. On Rarlgon, High Counsellor Wang persuades Azaling to declare war on Earth. Later, she is crying over her parent's death and is seen by one of her subjects. Ashamed, she asks the man to forget what he saw. He replies that there is no shame in sadness even for an empress. Those tears shows that she has a kind and gentle heart. Because of that, soldiers will not hesitate to sacrifice their lives for her. He gives his name: Dom, captain of the cruiser Dorome. She is shocked that a mere captain spoke so bluntly to her. Later, Dom learns from Admiral Lowaner that his ship has been ordered to attack... ·

Taylor is having a psychological aptitude test. A big Virtual Reality helmet covers him and a male voice checks some information with him. Taylor protests the procedure and the Artificial Intelligence switches to a female voice. Taylor immediately starts to sweet-talk her. He eventually succeeds in "seducing" her but tries to back off in fear of her enthusisam. His "teasing" finally makes her overheat and explode! Taylor protests that it is not his fault and runs away... to

encounter the Petty Officer who tells him that the enemy has blown up the computer! As they are at war, Taylor is accepted in the UPSF. The officer reminds him to write an autobiography if he makes it out alive. Taylor salutes: "Yes, sir. Leave this war to me!".

Episode 2: Hey! The happy retirement life!

Dom sends two spies to Earth to undermine UPSF moral by exposing the fact that prominent figures of the military are left in misery after their retirement. Taylor works at the UPSF Pension Department. As the computer has lost track of Retired Admiral R. J. Hanner, Taylor must find him and deliver his pension check.

The spies, acting as members of Universal Peace Revolutionism Front, take Admiral Hanner hostage, along with his two daughters Emi & Yumi, and their friend Lt. Commander Yuriko Star. The police and Lt. Makoto Yamamoto are negotiating with the terrorists who asks for the end of the war and the dissolution of the UPSF. Taylor arrives and, mistaken for a secret agent sent by Mifune, enters the house to deliver the check. He is made prisoner. Fuji criticizes Mifune, who wants to save the hostages' lives, and asks for immediate action. Meanwhile, Taylor, with his usual clumsiness, is talking the spies into surrendering.

Clever or lucky, his name in now known by the enemy and by his superiors. In the next episode, he will be capitain!

REVIEW

Based on a story by Yoshioka Hitoshi and directed by Mashita Kouichi, IRRESPONSIBLE CAPTAIN TAYLOR recounts the exploits of Justy Ueki Taylor, an aspiring soldier of the United Planets Space Force. The problem is that Taylor is totally incompetent at everything! He has, in fact, two things that keeps him alive: his optimism and his totally insane luck! Maybe that's what got him the command of a space battle cruiser! With a sort of joyous insanity, Taylor and his crew (Lt. Commander Yuriko Star, Lt. Yamamoto, the Hanner twins (Emi & Yumi), and a plethora of other weirdos) go on to save Earth from the attacks of the Rarlgon Empire and its cute empress, Azaling. 26 episodes long, TAYLOR took the anime world by surprise, giving us yet another series that is worth watching. It offers great art and designs, and lots of fun. It is possible that its popularity comes from the NADIA likeness, the GUNDAM epic, and some DIRTY PAIR-like humor. One thing is sure: TAYLOR is a series that will be remembered!
****

TYLOR IRRESPONSIBLE CAPTAIN Vol. 1 (eps. 1-2, also includes an original music clip), VAP LaserVideo Disc, VPLY-70237, CLV, 52 min., ¥ 5,800 ($75 US at Nikaku Animart).

STAFF: Original Story: Hitoshi Yoshioka; Screenplays planning: Hiroyuki Kawasaki & Kouichi Mashimo; Character Design: Tomohiro Hirata; Mechanical Design: Kouji Ito & Shoichi Masuo; Background Art: Masaru Sato; Music: Kenji Kawai; Sounds: Riku Matsukawa; Producer: Tatsunoko Production; Distributors: Bigwest, King Record, VAP & Media Rings; Director: Kouichi Mashimo.

CAST: Taylor: Tsujitani Kouji; Dom: Seki Toshihiko; Fuji: Nishimura Tomomichi; Mifune: Mugi Hiro; Azaling: Kasahara Hiroko; Betty: Komiya Kazue; Noriko: Kawamura Maria; Yuriko: Amano Yuri; Yamamoto: Hayami Shou; Emi/Yumi: Kanai Mika.

IRREPONSIBLE CAPTAIN TAYLOR © 1993 Yoshioka Hitoshi/ Tylor Project/ Kadokawa Shoten.

These synopses were made with the help of the script translated by Tonghyun "Vajra" Kim, edited by John Yoon & Mike Studre.

VOICE OF THE FREEDOM FIGHTER

Dear Editors:

I happen to have several opinions about PA, MP and Ianus' products:

On PA's content — I'm generally satisfied with the format of the magazine and its articles. The editorial page is always made to be interesting to the reader and expresses itself without being judgmental. The magazine gives ample room for the le tters' column (and sometimes the real delight of reading a magazine is seeing the views of other readers). (...) The SPOTLIGHT articles are necessary to relate the fan to the creators and markets of anime, manga, and comics.

Old subjects versus New: Coverage of older shows has appeal to me if the show in question is not-as-famous or hasn't had much airplay in North America. I'd also be interested if the show was having re-releases or remakes (IRON MAN 28 and its revival; or GATCHAMAN on laserdisc; or STARVENGERS/ GETTA ROBO GO).

One disappointment of PA 18 was the article about SILENT MOBIUS 2, which told little about the second movie and rehashed quite a bit about the first. I guess if the reader has no info about either film, then the article's okay. Don't call it a "synopsis" if it's just a preview.

The story on Japanese "invasions" in other countries are an interesting sidelight that no other magazine would try. It's a daring move. I'd also like to see other sidelight themes, like anime merchandising or Japanese theater technology (which is having a current revolution).

The REVIEWS column have improved to a point that overwhelms me! I like the way you review videos, but in future issues I'd like to see material on things like CDs, video games, books, etc. related to anime. Not all at once, mind you — variety requires a certain balance.

The industry news is a big help to a fan. Now that I know Anime X is coming out (or Game Module X, or Kit X, or Manga X, etc.), I can order it! Knowing is half the battle. The EVENTS column is of lesser importance to me, but things may change to the point that I can make a 'Con or 'Expo someday. Fan club info is also a must to have around. (...)

An article series I'd like to see is a fan's guide to Japan! What does a fan do if he/she gets the chance to go there? What are the best places to go for anime shopping? For sightseeing? What to avoid? Inquiring minds...

Another special I'd want to see as an annual would be about the new TV season in Japan. I'm rather tired of glancing at ANIMAGEs and such magazines and getting myself confused on new shows. Fandom is causing crossover to speed up by leaps and bounds — and the fall premiere of show X may be the next NADIA or RANMA 1/2 to foreign fans!

Subtitling versus Dubbing: That's a tough one for somebody who's been exposed to both. I prefer dubbing if the show has large amounts of dialogue and an intense story. I like subtitled anime a little more since until now most subtitled anime has been uncut, whereas there are many "celebrated" cases of anime being severely edited as they were dubbed for the "American" market. I like the fact that such companies as US Renditions and Manga Corps are making uncut dub versions — and they seem a long time coming to most fans I know. I'd do anything for a chance to do a bit-part as a voice-actor (—a good idea for a contest?).

My current ten favorite anime characters: Female — Miriya (MACROSS); Aiya Kishida (ARIEL); Vision (BGC); Maron Namikaze (ASSEMBLE INSERT); Shampoo (RANMA 1/2); Male — CAPTAIN HARLOCK; MELLOWLINK; Roll Kran (DANGAIO); Dorel Ronah (GUNDAM F-91); Kou Uraki (GUNDAM 0083). (...)

Sincerely,

Stephen Bierce
Spring Hill, FL

Thanks for your comments. We do our best to adjust the magazine to our reader's interests and expectations.

ATTENTION ANIMATORS

Las Vegas cable television production company seeks independently produced animated short films for possible inclusion in a series pilot. The series is a showcase for animation of all types. The initial pilot will be test-marketed for possible broadcast nation wide. Nothing is too twisted, wild or extreme. Shock us. Please submit your film on VHS format. Forward copies to:

Mr. Matthew Freeman
1412 E. Charleston Blvd., #111
Las Vegas, NV, 89104.

Dear Fellow Anime and Manga Junkies,

After reading Michael Capiello's letter in PA #21, and being an author who's work you have also turned down, I felt compelled to write a response in defence of your company.

When you rejected my Manga/anime-style novel, "I refuse to Die!" on the basis that you no longer publish novels, you did return my material along with a letter of explanation as to why it was rejected. And you even wrote me a personal letter and not a bloody form letter as other publishers often use. In retrospect, I feel that I was treated in a respectful manner.

It is obvious to anyone with an IQ above 10 that Mr. Capiello is the one who is not "versed in the protocol of correspondence" as his inprofessionalism demonstrates. he should save his arrogence for when he turns pro.

As for the rest of the issue, I loved the NAUSICAA article. (...) I also loved the soundtrack article. Being a big fan of BGM, anime or otherwise, I believe that this should be a regular feature of PA.

Sincerely,

Todd Shields
Ludlow, KY

P.S. Feel free to recycle this letter.

Dear Sir:

Thank you for publishing my article on Japanese rock music. I appreciate the opportunity to introduce the medium to others who are interested in the pop culture of Japan. I've seen complaints about some of your editing in previous issues, but I thought you did a good job overall on the article, especially in light of the re-editing I know you had to do. (...)

What I really think your readers should know, however, is that the information in the article is now over a year old. Most of the "recent" albums are no longer so. Also, the partiality of some of the information I was using at the time will probably bring some letters of correction or disagreement. For example, Princess, while maintaining a hard rock edge, is starting to play around with some pop-oriented material. They are also sometimes marketed like they are an idol band, but this is a reflection on their declining popularity in Japan, not of their music. Chisato Moritaka has also changed. She has made the switch to artist and now has a more 50's/60's twist to her music.

I would also like to answer a question raised by a number of my friends which a number of your readers are probably asking: what was my logic behind the artists I selected to cover? Why not use more established artists like Hound Dog, Chage & Aska, or The Southern All Stars? Or why not cover artists less connected to the idol mainstream, like Luna Sea, Grand Slam or X/Yoshiki? Simply put, the five I chose are 1) easy to find in Asian music stores in North America, 2) artists who have been around a minimum of six years, so they're not flash-in-the-pan, and 3) sound most akin to the music being heard in the anime. If PA readers would like to hear more about these and other Japanese artists (you Alannah Myles & Lee Aaron fans hear Mari Hamada!) I would be glad to contribute further spotlights or articles.

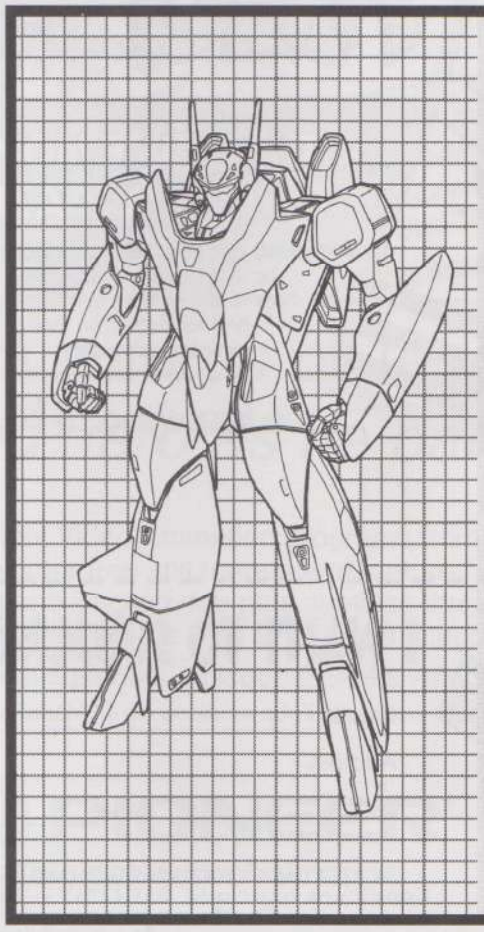
In the meantime, I would like to correspond with others who are into Japanese rock music or who have had their interest sparked in it. The Network I am with is compiling information to publish a Western guide to Japanese popular music, so any information other readers can provide would be both appreciated and credited in the book. Please write to my address at the bottom of the letter.

To round off your BUBBLEGUM CRISIS collection you might want one of Tsubokura Yuiko's albums for her solo career (eg: "I Wanna Be Myself", BVCR 2307), or a solo project from Ryoko Tachikawa (TECN 30167), from BGM Victor and Baidis, respectively. Princess' latest is "BeeBeep" (SRCL 2553); Shizuka's is "Rise Me" (PCCA 00440); and Chisato's are "Pepper Land" (WPCL 707) & "Lucky Seven" (WPCL 760), which debuted at #3 on the Japan chart in BILLBOARD. Yes, BILLBOARD actually prints the top-10 Japanese singles and albums every two weeks! Another good source is your local Japanese food store. Get a video membership and start renting "Sound Arena" and "Music Station", or "G-Stage" if they still have last year's videos before it went off the air.

When New Years Day comes around scan your TV Guide for the NHK Red & White Special. It's a 5-hour Japanese music show-down. Four of the five singers I discussed were on it this year, as well as a tribute to animation and science fiction heroes. Princess was asked to be on the show, but rumor has it that they wanted too much money and got axed.

James Taylor
Japanese Animation Club of Toronto
Box 5242, Station A
Toronto, On., Canada, M5W 1N5
FAX: (416) 420-5033

Thanks for the update. Those who liked your article in PA #21 will be glad to hear that we will soon publish more of your articles in the form of a chronicle on Japanese pop culture.



Sci-Fi ANIME

5966 Mokland Ave.
Montreal, Quebec
H4A 1G8
Tel.: (514) 482-8688

We have a good selection at the best price for plastic model kits in Montreal.

Such as: Gundam, Macross, Dunbine and more. **PLUS** we carry manga / video english translated and superheroes comic books. ALSO carrying all IANUS Japanese related products.

Store Hours:

Mon - Wed	1100 - 1800
Thu - Fri	1100 - 2000
Sat	1000 - 1800
Sun	1200 - 1700

SUBSCRIBE TO

PROTOCULTURE ADDICTS

THE ANIME & MANGA MAGAZINE

Discover the world of Japanese animation & comics through interviews with their creators, synopses, reviews of the latest releases, and news on upcoming products. More pages! More anime! More pictures!

6 issues/year: $25.

&

MECHA-PRESS!

THE ANIME MODEL & GAME MAGAZINE

Everything you need to know about mecha: how to use them in gaming, how to enjoy them in modeling, and full details on their original animations. Now with more pages!

6 issues/year: $36.

I WANT TO SUBSCRIBE TO: ☐ P.A.: $25 ☐ M.P.: $36

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

USA and OVERSEAS subscribtions must be in U.S. currency
Canadians must add GST (7%) -- For overseas subscriptions add $15
Checks or money-orders must be drawn to:
Ianus Publications, Inc.
5000 rue Iberville, #332, Montreal, Qc., Canada, H2H 2M2.

Follow the adventures of Tenchi Masaki, our red blooded hero as he battles … girls!

Tenchi Muyo! the first series of Original Video Animation programs from Pioneer, the leader in laser technology. All episodes are CAV for jitter free still frames and feature full stereo bilingual sound tracks with original Japanese dialog and English dub plus subtitles through closed captioning. Each disc is packaged with complete Japanese inserts plus English translation! Collect all six episodes.

Episode 1: Ryoko Resurrected, is available now. Episode 2: Aeka Attacks, available early January.

Original video animation for mature viewers. Tenchi Muyo contains adult situations and may not be suitable for younger viewers. Parental discretion is advised.

PIONEER®

Original Video Animation

© 1993 Pioneer LDCA, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

LET MEGATECH SATISFY YOUR MOST PRIMAL DESIRES.

You've played action games. And scanned graphics files. Now experience the voluptuous women and hot, steamy action of Japanese Anime, with Megatech's bold PCM 6-track stereo sound and vibrant graphics hand-sculpted for your PC. You'll know why the Japanese sent us cars and VCRs. But kept the software for themselves.

COBRA MISSION

Live out your wildest fantasies saving dames from vicious thugs. Can you help it if they've got a thing for gumshoes?

DRAGON KNIGHT II

Fight to stay alive in this mythical land of spirits, warriors and lovely maidens. Will you know what's real?

METAL & LACE

THE BATTLE OF THE ROBO BABES

Arcade-style adventure with futuristic female hard bodies fighting to the finish. Hot action-in more ways than one.

Available now at your nearest dealer or call 1-800-258-MEGA. Or write: Megatech, P.O. Box 11333, Torrance, CA 90510 Visa, MasterCard, checks accepted.

NR-18 These games are not for the faint-hearted. Contains violence and some material inappropriate for minors.

NOT RECOMMENDED FOR PLAYERS UNDER 18.

None of the games developed by Megatech Software has been rated by the MPAA.

For a free demo, call our 24hr. BBS at 310-539-7739. (8n1)

MEGATECH